

THE GATEWAY

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STEFFI ROSSKOPF

IT'S A GOOD THING Dough: The Politics of Martha Stewart opens at the Varscona this week. See page 16 for the preview.

Credibility of Times rankings questioned

KIRSTEN GORUK
Deputy News Editor

The University of Alberta is sitting at 74th place in the Times Higher Education-QS World University Rankings for 2008, but despite jumping more than 20 spots from last year, concerns have surfaced within the administration regarding the credibility of the rankings methodology.

The British-based rankings annually compare universities from all over the world. Their results are internationally recognized and influential, yet U of A President Indira Samarasekera isn't thrilled with what exactly placing 74th means for the University.

"[The rankings] are both meaningless and they are misleading [...] It's not an academically rigorous method of assessing quality. So what does it mean to go up? I don't know what it means to go up," Samarasekera stated.

"The rankings don't measure the most important job the University does, and that is to educate students, so the quality of the undergraduate education is not measured in the rankings," she added.

Among her issues with the Times methodology, Samarasekera pointed to the component of employer review, which slated the University in 48th this year. While the U of A maintains a high employment rate for

graduates, the rankings are calculated in a manner that doesn't reflect local employment conditions.

"They have an employer review, so they send out surveys to employers to find out which universities they hire graduates from, but that's a very local, regional issue, and if you don't live in big centres like New York, or London, or Tokyo, then those employers in those centres don't employ U of A graduates, and then you get penalized," she explained.

"The rankings don't measure the most important job the University does, and that is to educate undergraduate students."

INDIRA SAMARASEKERA
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA PRESIDENT

Setting aside her personal feelings for what she feels is a flawed methodology, Samarasekera admits that these rankings are internationally recognized and will influence prospective students in deciding where to pursue their postsecondary education.

PLEASE SEE RANKINGS • PAGE 5

Candidates for Liberal leadership race debate over election platforms

SIMON YACKULIC
News Staff

Liberals in Alberta are dealing with new and old challenges this fall as the provincial political party seeks to revitalize its image with voters through a change in leadership and—in the eyes of some members of the party—a necessary re-branding.

The three contenders for the leadership—Dave Taylor, David Swann and Mo Elsalhy—have detailed plans for reinvesting in postsecondary education that focus in on an issue they each believe to be one of the necessary policy planks in reconnecting with the youth of the province.

"This government tends to see education as an expense, and seeking to have always the lowest possible tax levels we don't have a sustainable and committed fund expanding the spaces in education, and keeping tuition low, and making housing affordable," Swann said.

"So our approach would be to make all that more affordable and see the longer term view as opposed to the short-term, which is maybe not seeing

education as an investment, which it should be," he further added.

As the party looks towards external restructuring, it also looks to expand its internal position, where views in the party clash over what strategy should be taken in regaining public support in Alberta.

Taylor bluntly swats aside the suggestion that the Liberals require an urgent name change, after their disastrous showing in the last provincial election.

This is in contrast to some in the party who believe that the "Liberal" name was partially responsible for the party going from 16 to just 9 seats in a Legislature with 83 representatives in total.

"If we just go and change our name and we don't deal with any of the other sort of issues that go into determining how people perceive us, then we'll be on the doorstep in 2012 and people will be saying 'you know, you're really a Liberal. You just changed the name to try and pull the wool over people's eyes and we still don't like you,'" he said.

Swann, the other contender who currently holds a seat in the legislature,

may disagree with Taylor's complete rejection of a name change, but he seems to agree that it's not the catch-all solution the party is looking for.

"If we decide to change the name it will be a decision based on changes in the party. It won't be simply a name change for the sake of trying to put on a different face," Swann explained.

As for the "changes in the party," he thinks it must be open to more diversity.

"A greater commitment in this party [is needed] to include young people, women, and ethnic minorities, so the party truly reflects that changes that are happening in Alberta," he added.

The third challenger for the bid is Mo Elsalhy, a candidate who is both young and an ethnic minority. The one candidate who is currently absent from the legislature, Elsalhy was a casualty of the last election, losing his seat to Progressive Conservative MLA David Xiao.

He believes that the Liberals may have been too arrogant in their performance last election and need to win back the trust of the common people.

PLEASE SEE LIBERALS • PAGE 7



HYUNG KYUN SUH

IN IT TO WIN IT Mo Elsalhy is one of three candidates who've entered the Liberal leadership race. He's up against David Taylor and David Swann.

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Costume glory

Don't get caught with your pants down this Halloween—our costume guide has all you need

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Penis envy

A story about someone getting heat ointment on his balls is only one anecdote offered up by CockTales

A&E, PAGE 14

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colophon

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WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

PARTY POLITICS Votes will be cast for the new Liberal leader by December.

Liberal party looks to new leadership for revitalization

LIBERALS * CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We are the underdog, and we have to campaign as the underdog. We have to tell people that we are on their side, and that they should be on ours. In 2008, we accepted the myth or the idea that we were a government-in-waiting. And we started to campaign as such," Elsalhy explained.

While the three challengers find some common ground on postsecondary issues, they each believe their individual leadership qualities will give them an edge over the competition.

Elsalhy trumps his youth and his "un-jaded enthusiasm." Swann and Taylor argue that their age and experience actually gives them a better

outlook. And between the two older candidates, Taylor believes that he is more of a centrist while Swann leans a little too far to the left.

"I think that the party will be seen by the voters to be more of a left-of-centre party rather than a centrist or a centre-left party, with David [Swann] at the helm. And that's a problem in my view because you know the Liberals and the New Democrats; they appear to people to be fighting it out for second place," Taylor stated.

In order to vote in the leadership race, a student must buy a \$5 youth membership by 7 November and send in a mail-in ballot. The new leader will be announced on 13 December.

South LRT expansion will open on schedule in April

JENNIFER HUYGEN
Senior News Editor

Southside and west-end transit users worried about a potential delay of the LRT's southern expansion can rest easy this week, as the city of Edmonton is now reporting that they will go ahead with the construction schedule as planned.

The potential delay—which would have seen the opening of the Belgravia and South Campus stations pushed back from April 2009 to as far as April 2010—was floated by City Transportation General Manager Bob Boutilier last week.

Boutilier cited budgetary cuts as the main reason for a delay. Estimates show that the city would have saved in the area of \$4.2 million in pushing back the opening to coincide with the full extension of the rail line down to Century Park station.

"When the budget came out there was a large price tag of \$4.2 million to turn the system, and the amount of pay-back on that was in the order of about \$400 000–\$500 000. So it looked like a tremendous amount of money to be expended for one year," Boutilier said.

"But when you think of the disruptions it would have had with traffic over Quesnell, the Fox Drive, the University itself, the expectations of people moving along that corridor, it didn't make any sense."

Additional money going into bus routes to compensate for the delayed LRT expansion would have offset any

potential savings, Boutilier explained.

According to Ward Four City Councillor Ben Henderson, increasing accessibility to the South Campus station is important in its capacity for bus transit as well.

"I think what we forget with South Campus station is that it also becomes the link to a major bus terminal from the west end and from the southwest," he said.

"We're hearing from people that they want an improvement in transit services and they want it right away, that there's a kind of real hunger to use transit [...] I think not to take advantage of that window when it's open to us is really a short-term gain for a long-term loss," he added.

Any setback in the southward expansion of the LRT would have dire consequences for students at the University of Alberta, explained Students' Union Vice President (External) Beverly Eastham.

"We realize that the city is running a deficit and that they do have to look for areas where they can make cuts and do things more efficiently, but the expansion of the LRT certainly represents more transportation options for students, and also opens up much larger housing options," she observed.

Brendan Van Alstine from the Transit Rider's Union of Edmonton agreed with Eastham on the benefits of the LRT going forward as planned.

"Obviously the sooner we can get the LRT service to more areas of the city, the better."

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by
Sam Brooks

As you may be aware, Roberta Bondar, Canada's first woman in space, was on campus Tuesday to deliver a speech.

Who is your favourite celebrated Canadian icon and why?

**Gillianne Bechard**
Kinesiology III**Carly Perreux**
Phys Ed II**Dez Jones**
Phys Ed II**Katie Upton**
Education III

Pamela Anderson, because she has a huge rack. [Really?] Yeah.

Jim Carrey because *Dumb and Dumber* is my favourite movie.

Tom Longboat, because he was named 21st century's number one athlete and, being Indian, I'm proud of him. He was the best marathon runner in the world back in the 1920s.

Trudeau I guess. [The Prime Minister?] Yeah. [And your reason is?] Because he changed a lot in Canada, for the better. I think he's a prominent figure.

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First Canadian woman in space gives medical lecture at U of A

JENNIFER HUYGEN
Senior News Editor

Dr Roberta Bondar has traveled the world—and the solar system—in her pursuit of knowledge. This week her travels brought her to the University of Alberta, where she shared her thoughts on space, medicine, and how the two intertwine.

The world's first astronaut-neurologist was on campus Tuesday afternoon to deliver the department of medicine's sixteenth annual E Garner King Memorial Lecture at the Bernard Snell Hall to a rapt audience of students and hospital staff.

Born in Sault Ste Marie, Ontario, Bondar worked as an astronaut on the space shuttle Discovery mission STS 42 in 1992, making her one of eight Canadians to have ever gone into orbit.

Bondar created a slide show presentation—complete with some of her own shots, taken on the side through her work as a photographer—to animate the important points of her lecture. Her opening slide showed a wood engraving of a shepherd looking out into the night sky, or as Bondar explained, into another world.

"This person is looking out into the universe and trying to grasp new, complex things. And of course, that's what we do, especially with the markets falling, people are really trying to understand complex issues," she noted. "In medicine, we have them all the time."

Titling her presentation "Flying into a vacuum," Bondar talked about these new worlds in an era of international access. She pointed to Russia, Japan, the European Space Agency (ESA), and NASA and their major role contributing to the International Space Station.

She also emphasized how the direction of space exploration is changing with the emergence of the Chinese onto the world scene.

"The Chinese, when they decided to go into space, vibrated NASA's table a little bit, because NASA had this vision to go onto Mars [...] It was a



STEPHEN CHARKO

LIVE LONG AND PROSPER Dr Roberta Bondar entertained Tuesday's audience with her humour and her experiences working as a neurologist in space.

real sexy thing going to Mars. Maybe Elvis is there—they had no idea," she explained, describing the opposition to the Chinese drive to send research away from the red planet and back towards the moon.

"So now you'll see the United States, Canada, and a lot of the Western world [who] are going now to do what they should have done in the first place, [which] was to go to the moon, because you can try out technologies there much closer than billions of miles away on the surface of Mars."

Putting on her neurology hat, Bondar also talked about the physical effects that these international astronauts feel when they launch into a zero-gravity zone, including spatial disorientation, visual illusions, and counter-rolling of the eyes—or what

Bondar terms the "space stupids."

"We go up there, we float around, and suddenly we can't find our pens, people coming in upside down, some people have actually thrown up," she remarked.

"Anything to do with gravity, the body reconfigures," she added, noting that fluid and reflex loss are two of the most serious medical concerns in the transition between the Earth and space environments.

Despite all of her success, Bondar remains humbled by her experiences as well as her education.

"People say to me [...] 'what was the most valuable thing to you in your life that you've done?' and they're expecting me to talk about going into space," she said.

"I say 'going into medicine.'"

back to his home elsewhere in the city.

RETURN TO SENDER

In the early morning hours of 18 October, a man was found sleeping in the hallway on the 21st floor of Newton Place. He had been previously removed from campus and was given a charge for trespassing and a ride downtown.

Similarly, a drunk male was seen wandering around the north end of HUB Mall. He too had been previously removed from campus, and was once again given a trespass notice and sent downtown.

In the early morning hours of 20 October, a man was found sleeping in a stairwell in the Clinical Sciences Building. Same story: had been previously removed, and was given a trespass notice and removed from campus.

EDGY AS A BOWLING BALL

Around 5pm on 18 October, students reported two young men openly using marijuana on the third floor of Rutherford North. By the time constables arrived they had already left the scene and could not be identified.

WATER WAY TO GO

Just after 7pm on 18 October, a female student reported the theft of her backpack from the bleachers of the west pool in Van Vliet. She had noticed a man sitting near her bag and then both him

and the bag vanished. Campus Security is reviewing video footage to aid their investigation.

GETTING TO KNOW ONE'S NEIGHBOURS

Just after 11pm on 18 October, residents of Newton Place reported a drunk male barging into residents' suites. It turned out the drunk door-opener was a resident that had been dealt with previously for similar incidents. He was directed back to his own suite without incident.

LRT BEAT-DOWN

Just after 11pm on 18 October, ETS Security requested assistance from Campus Security in dealing with a group of males fighting on the University Station platform. The five fighters apparently assaulted one other lone male rider. Campus Security and ETS are investigating this incident.

HERE TO HELP

In the early morning hours of 19 October, Campus 5-0 received a call from a Distress Line worker that had just spoken to a campus resident considering suicide. Campus Security and Residence Services arrived at the student's room and after performing an assessment, referred the resident to counseling services.

DEWEY'S

Monday – Friday, 8am – 8pm

OPEN MIC

on the evening of Monday, Oct. 27th for the ECSA student group in Dewey's Lounge from 6pm to 8pm. Contact schumach@ualberta.ca for your sign up.

Poutine is now available at Dewey's. Enjoy it with a Grass-hopper pint for just \$4.25 or a jug for \$12.75 on Open Mic Night.



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STUDENT SURVIVAL PACK

including a \$500.00 Westjet voucher, a \$250.00 grocery store gift certificate and a Big Rock beer fridge.

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Mike Otto

GRAVITY: 1; TRACEUR: 0

After noon on 17 October, Campus Security responded to a first aid call from FAB. Officers found a young man lying on the second floor holding his bleeding leg. He had tried to jump from the third floor landing to a ledge, in a stunt activity known as parkour. He missed the jump and fell five meters to the second floor. Paramedics arrived but the stuntman refused treatment; he and the group he was with were not students. They were told to leave campus and go to a hospital for further examination by a doctor.

WRONG TURN

At around 3am on 18 October, a resident of International House phoned Campus 5-0 to report a naked drunk male in her suite. After Campus Security and Residence Services arrived, they found he was a guest of another I-House resident and that he had become confused after using the bathroom. He was asked to put on his clothes and was given a courtesy ride



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Proposed Aboriginal student centre secures funding

JENNIFER HUYGEN
Senior News Editor

The University of Alberta is paving the way for students on campus to learn more about the aboriginal culture of its land and student population with the proposed construction of an aboriginal gathering place to take shape in the coming years.

The project is now slated to go forward with the recent announcement of a \$1 million donation from outgoing Chancellor Eric Newell, though specific plans related to deadlines and construction have yet to be finalized.

Through his financial contribution, Newell stressed the importance of creating a physically welcoming environment for Aboriginal students studying at the U of A.

"First of all it's a place of welcome for students coming onto this campus, which, if you come from a small community of 200-300 people, or even from the inner city [...] can be a pretty intimidating place," said Newell.

"In that sense, the building will be very much in tune with the culture, and there'll be elders-in-residence, and lounges for students, and student services will be in there," he added, citing that the most likely site for the gathering place will be over on east campus, near International House.

The project will be overseen by the Office of the Provost, which will bring together all of the different stakeholders on campus and in the community.

According to Ellen Bielawski, Dean of Native Studies, the idea to construct a gathering place on campus isn't new.

"I would say the idea has been around probably since Aboriginal students first started coming here," she explained.

"So it's been talked about many times before, and there have been a couple of attempts to get it going and so on and so forth, but no one has ever put this kind of financial commitment in place, so it was a huge and wonderful thing the Newell's did for us."

"I think in the past, the senior University leadership had not embraced the importance of Aboriginal people in our country, in our province, on our campus, just throughout our entire life, but now we have really good senior leadership behind the notion of aboriginal initiatives," she added.

"The building will be very much in tune with the culture, and there'll be elders-in-residence, and lounges for students, and student services."

ERIC NEWELL
OUTGOING CHANCELLOR

In the 2007/08 academic year, statistics provided by the Office of the Registrar noted that 955 students of First Nations, Inuit, and Metis heritage—whether in a status or non-status capacity—were enrolled in a full- or part-time degree program. These numbers are based on a self-identification process, where one has the choice of identifying their aboriginal descent when applying for university.

"We do have a high number of aboriginal students attending, but nowhere near the percentage of the

population that does compare to the Alberta population, for example. So we'd really like to achieve higher numbers. It's all based on self-identifying, which can be another factor," said Melissa Gillis, Aboriginal Student Services coordinator.

Statistics Canada data from 2006 reports that 3 290 350 Aboriginal Peoples reside in Alberta.

"If you look at it in terms of our society, I mean, the aboriginal population is growing faster than any other part of the population, so in fact, I think it's fair to say that in within very few years, one out of five youth in Edmonton will be aboriginal. It's not that well understood," Newell explained.

With these numbers in mind, U of A President Indira Samarasekera has proposed that the U of A stake out a place as the university of choice for aboriginal students. It is hoped that the aboriginal gathering place will help to increase rates of aboriginal student enrollment and retention.

"For our office it's a matter of retention, because we can get as many aboriginal people on the University as possible, but are we keeping them? And so that would be a strong [reason] to keep them here and have one place where we can provide that support to them and that community," Gillis observed.

Gillis and Bielawski agreed on the importance of creating a unique space for aboriginal student gatherings on campus. Traditionally, round dances have been held in Quad and the Butterdome, and smudging ceremonies take place in the Aboriginal Student Services Office and Pembina Hall.

"Generally, the spiritual aspect of a lot of aboriginal performance and so on means that we need a space—some



BRENNAN MURPHY

GATHER ROUND Outgoing Chancellor Eric Newell is behind the centre's funding.

indoor space, some outdoor space—that is dedicated to those things," Bielawski noted.

Bielawski points to the Nozhem First Peoples Performance Space at Trent University as an example that the U of A should follow in developing the gathering place—which will later take on a Cree name decided upon by elders. A similar facility also exists at the University of British Columbia.

As the process goes forward on constructing the aboriginal gathering

place, those involved with the project remain optimistic about the benefits it will bring to both aboriginal and non-aboriginal students on campus.

"This is hugely important to our students, it's hugely exciting. And you know, so is having good professors and good programs, but this is so exciting for all the people in all the years coming through the Faculty of Native Studies have felt that the University needs a space on campus that recognizes our aboriginal heritage," Bielawski concluded.

University lags behind in social sciences category of Times rankings

RANKINGS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"The reason we can't dismiss them is because international students around the world look at these rankings, and so do parents of students around the world, and some presidents of universities use these rankings to promote their institutions," she said.

Students' Union President Janelle Morin echoed these sentiments and she agrees with Samarasekera when it comes to the criteria the Times rankings are based on.

"It's great to see the University moving in a trajectory that is positive, but we believe they'll get there faster and more effectively if they address quality, affordability, and student life in conjunction with all the other aspects they seek to improve," she said.

A potential area of improvement for the University is its social sciences ranking, which currently sits at 113th, significantly lagging behind areas such as engineering, which earned

46th place in its category.

However, Samarasekera is wary of those numbers as well.

"I'm not convinced that where we rank is a real reflection in any way of our quality. I think we do very well despite the [Arts] under-funding, and so I really do question the value of where they positioned us, because it doesn't reflect some of the strengths that I believe we have," she stated.

On the other hand, Morin feels that the social sciences placement is the reflection of a perception shared by both the University and the province of Alberta.

"Something important for the University and the province to remember is that a great school might have fame for a certain area, but it will score consistently well in all areas," she said.

"[We want them to] recognize that an institution will only be considered great if it's consistently great across its faculties and push the University to

ensure that we are asking for funding for all of the different faculties and push the province to recognize that an education is a holistic education," Morin added.

Regardless of where the U of A falls in the rankings, for Morin, the bottom line is that despite the influence of where the University ranks, the other factors at play outweigh the ultimate outcome.

"If a set of rankings gives us a positive result, but is based on inappropriate factors, I don't believe that helps us in the long run," Morin noted.

Samarasekera agrees, explaining that she'd prefer a system that she felt was more credible and reflected the overall educational experience of students.

"You like to think that you have an influence over whether people think you are high quality or not, but if it's being determined by something that's fairly meaningless—this is not a good thing, but that's the reality."



PETE YEE

NO BIG DEAL U of A President Indira Samarasekera reflects on the rankings.

Change is good.

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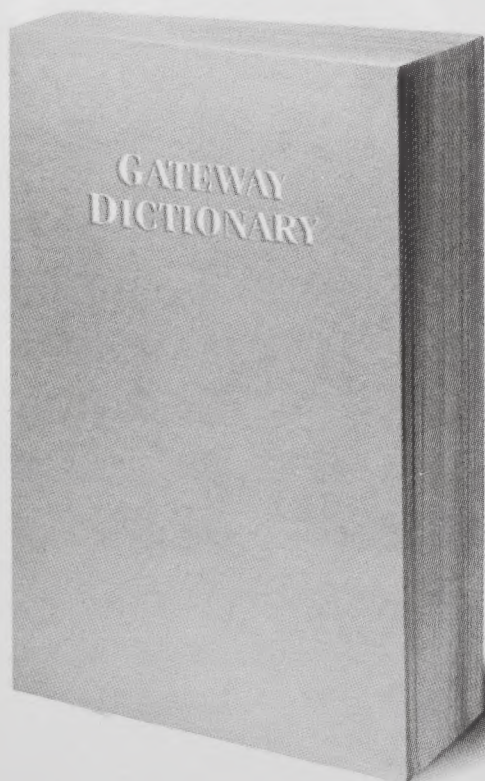
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JUSTINE MILTON

WOULD YOU LIKE EMISSIONS WITH THAT? Dr Peter Boxall explains how drive-thru idling is causing environmental issues.

Drive-thru idling creates unnecessary greenhouse emissions—U of A study

CHRIS HUYGEN
News Writer

A University of Alberta study has shown that cars idling at fast food restaurant drive-thrus are responsible for contributing significant volumes of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere each year.

Conducted by Dr Peter Boxall, professor and acting chair of rural economics at the U of A, the study was carried out with the assistance of students in the environmental conservation sciences program.

Their findings concluded that approximately 25 tonnes of greenhouse gases are emitted daily from fast food drive-thrus, totaling more than 9000 tonnes a year, a figure that accounts for roughly 0.05 per cent of the city's total yearly emissions.

"It's a pretty small proportion of the total emissions from the city," Boxall said.

"But focus on all the other stuff that's bad too. There's more that comes out of the tailpipe than just carbon dioxide," he added.

The study, the second of its kind that Boxall has conducted, took into account multiple restaurants and visitation patterns at different times of day and days of the week over last winter.

Students observed how many vehicles used the drive-thru, recorded how long it took them to be served, and categorized them by vehicle type. Given these observations, a citywide total was calculated using the number

of emissions, extrapolated in terms of traffic patterns and the number of drive thrus operating in Edmonton.

"The idea was, we wanted to blow this up into some estimation of emissions from the city of Edmonton," he explained.

"It's a pretty small proportion of the total emissions from the city, but focus on all the other stuff that's bad too. There's more that comes out of a tailpipe than just carbon dioxide."

DR PETER BOXALL
ACTING CHAIR OF RURAL ECONOMICS

Boxall further speculated that the real cost of a meal picked up from a drive-thru is more than meets the eye. Once the amount of gasoline spent idling is converted to a monetary figure and added to the price of food, customers can expect to pay more for the convenience of not having to leave their vehicles.

Concerns about the pollution and congestion caused by drive-thrus have led some cities to consider banning their construction, though it is unlikely that Edmonton will pursue

this course.

"I made a splash by suggesting I was open to this last year, but I don't think there's any appetite for an outright ban. I do think we'll see guidelines evolve for the design of new neighbourhoods and redevelopment in existing areas that stresses walkability and preserving a street-facing presence, as opposed to vehicle-oriented environments," stated City Councillor Don Iveson on excessive idling.

He remains optimistic that, despite the difficulty enforcing such a bylaw, citizens will nonetheless opt to turn off their engines.

"Laws are followed because they make sense, not necessarily because they are enforced, and not idling excessively makes a lot of sense," Iveson rationalized in an email to the Gateway.

With no anti-idling bylaw currently in place in the city, drivers need not worry about being served with a fine while lining up for their morning coffee. Policy to impose such restrictions failed to pass in City Council this spring, when they opted instead on an educational campaign.

Nevertheless, it appears that the issue is being resurrected as Edmonton re-examines its green conscience. Iveson confirms that a bylaw restricting excessive idling is presently being drafted for consideration, and a public hearing is slated for 27 October to allow citizens the opportunity to voice their opinions.

NEWS BRIEFS

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA SCHOOL OF BUSINESS GIVEN \$1 MILLION DONATION FROM WAL-MART

The University of Alberta School of Business has recently received some corporate support for their retail school in the form of a \$1 million donation from Wal-Mart Canada.

This endorsement aids in the School of Business' campaign to raise \$25 million for the School of Retailing in order to create a more specialized program that will attract students who are interested in more than the general program offered at most business schools.

"What we're trying to do is get a specific focus or a niche that will have a global identity. That way, we could attract students from the rest of Canada and from the rest of the world. The Wal-Mart gift

helps us achieve our goal of creating a magnet to attract students to come to the University of Alberta," said Dr Mike Percy, Dean of Business.

Apart from attracting more students, another goal of the School of Retailing is to spread awareness about career opportunities available in retailing. According to Percy, retailers have the impression that students are unacquainted with the opportunities available in that field.

Referred to as the "accidental career," students often graduate with finance or accounting degrees yet end up working in the head office of a major retailer.

"It signals that, in fact, there are career paths in retailing—it's not just the 'accidental career' that many people think it is," Percy stated.

Wal-Mart's donation will also help attract and pay for quality faculty members and create scholarships for students interested in this area. Aside from its monetary donation, Wal-Mart has

committed the time of some of its senior executives to come and talk to students about the retailing industry.

Percy believes that there are two main reasons that Wal-Mart was motivated to make a contribution to the University of Alberta: the first being the School's reputation and the second being Wal-Mart's wish to show its support for retailing careers.

"This is a university that clearly has a lot of momentum and has an increasingly higher profile in Canada and in North America. Within that framework, the School of Business has a North American reputation in the area of marketing and retailing because of the quality of our staff and the success of our students," he emphasized.

"Wal-Mart looked at this as an ideal way to signal a commitment to helping people attain careers in retailing."

—Patricia Skagen-Emokpae
News Writer

University of Alberta researchers play key role in teaming up with NASA in discovering snow in Mars' atmosphere

CODY CIVIERO
Opinion Editor

NASA's Phoenix Mars Lander has recently discovered snow in the planet's atmosphere, just months after locating ice under the surface. The unearthing is largely owed to the research of Dr Carlos Lange, a professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Alberta.

Among his contributions to the mission is the concept for a wind sensor designed specifically to accommodate the unique conditions of Mars.

"My team was specifically involved with the temperature sensors—the three thermometers attached to the meteorological mast on Phoenix," Lange explained.

"The wind sensor, which we call Telltale [...] was born here at the U of A. The idea came from here, we did the proof of concept, and then ultimately, it was designed and built in Denmark."

The Telltale was designed to replace another proposed wind sensor that fell through, and Lange notes that its design has its own unique aspects.

"While the whole Phoenix Lander has a series of high-tech instruments, this is a very low-tech one. It was a solution we found at the last minute, and it works. It's measuring wind [speed] and direction on Mars based on pictures," he said.

The developments garnered by Telltale will provide substantial evidence towards both the Phoenix project's primary and interdependent

objectives—evaluating the planet's water cycle and determining its habitability.

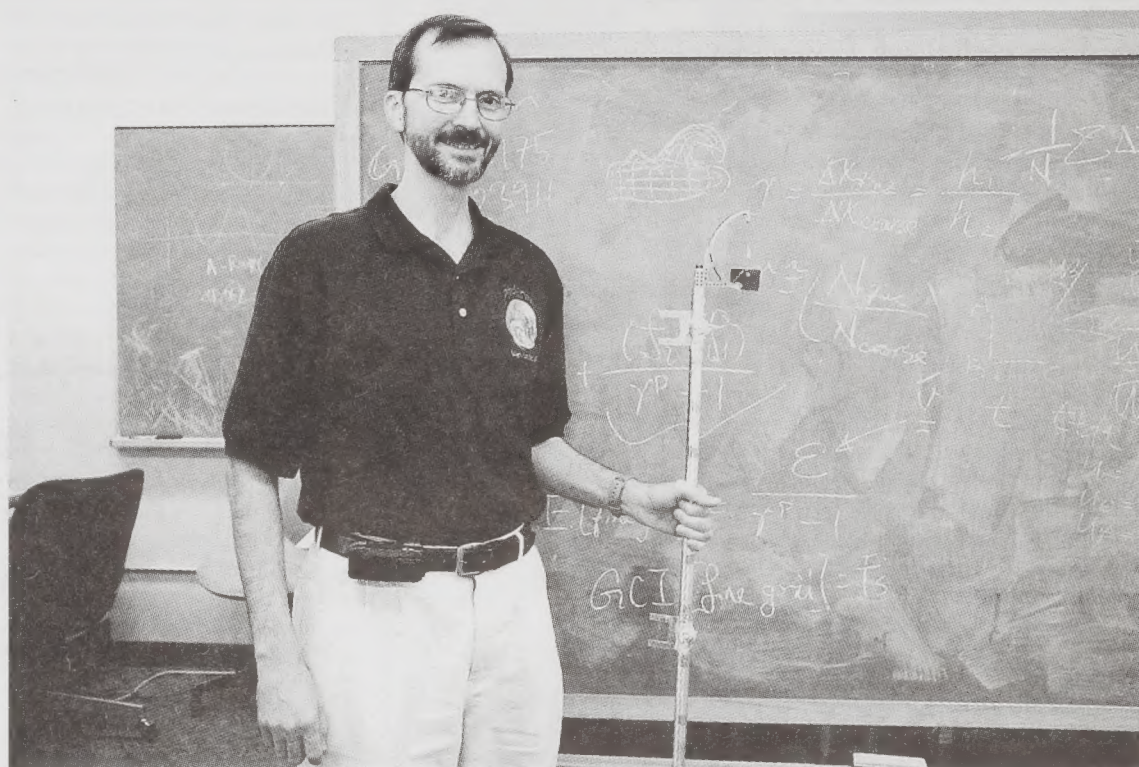
"[The Phoenix project is] trying to explain why in the past we see signs of Mars being much wetter. It will have the objective of confirming our suspicion that we would find a layer of ice underneath the soil in the northern regions of Mars. And it's now trying to test this ice to see if it has the same composition as in the atmosphere," Lange noted.

"It will have the objective of confirming our suspicion that we would find a layer of ice underneath the soil in the northern regions of Mars."

DR CARLOS LANGE
U OF A MECHANICAL
ENGINEERING PROFESSOR

When it comes to habitability, the key factor may be whether the underground ice sheets eventually become liquid.

"Mars doesn't have an ozone layer, it doesn't have a magnetic field—so there's no protection against UV radiation and cosmic rays. So maybe the question of habitability is to be protected by a layer of soil from these rays. A bug could survive if the ice can



JILL RICE

TO INFINITY AND BEYOND Dr Carlos Lange was involved in the development of Telltale, a wind sensor designed to measure wind speed and direction on Mars. The aim of the project is to determine the planet's habitability and water cycle.

become liquid at some point, because we know that life as we know it needs liquid water," he explained.

Beyond that, the water can't be caustic or poisonous if any life is to flourish.

"So far, we have haven't found anything poisonous and [...] everybody's working really hard to try to estimate if some period during the year you would have a liquid puddle on top of

the ice sheet that we found. So this would then answer the question of habitability," Lange added.

During the Lander's operational run, the focus has been on data collection rather than interpretation, which should take several years after the mission is concluded next month.

"The actual mission is coming to a close, because around mid-November, Mars will go behind the Sun,

and we can't communicate anymore. It will come out and we would be able to communicate in January, but some of the engineers think that [...] there might be a problem with the timing so that we couldn't reach it anymore," Lange concluded.

"It's a huge amount of data and we'll have to sift through it. It will take a couple of years [...] for the complete analysis."



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Sports: Tuesdays at 4pm
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THE GATEWAY
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Economic troubles a touch of karma

IT SEEMS LIKE EVERY MAGAZINE COVER OVER THE last month has asserted that stock prices and mortgages are crashing harder than Dale Earnhardt. Given our acclimatization to opulence, people are having the gall to doom-say about “the next Great Depression” from the comfort of their leather recliners in their \$400 000 homes. It says a lot about our society that we equate having moderately less disposable income and retirement money with waiting in line for three hours for a loaf of bread.

It's human nature to seek complete understanding of causation, be it simplistic or accurate, so naturally someone needs to be blamed. That scapegoat has been the “free” market, but there are some truths involved that aren't politically expedient to voice: we deserve it, and most of us have only ourselves to blame. The party is over, and we all have to stop living like SUVs and 50-inch LCD screens are basic human rights.

What's going on isn't a widespread deprivation of basic goods; it's an inevitable correction of our unsustainable tendency to push consumption to the limits.

A Gallup poll that took place over 40 years, ending in 1992, revealed that what people perceived as the “smallest amount of money a family of four needs to get along” rose 70 per cent in that time span when adjusted for inflation. Since human biology hasn't changed in any substantial way, the implications are that people have revised their views about what constitutes a “basic necessity.”

Similarly, a Dutch study discovered that a neighbour winning the lottery has a statistically significant effect of one's likelihood to purchase a new vehicles or exterior home renovations (unsurprising, there was no effect on interior work) within the next six months.

This is a mere handful of evidence to what should seem self-evident: our spending habits have everything to do with misconceptions of what we need, and with social status.

But even many of those who agree that there's out-of-control consumerism at work are pointing their fingers in the wrong direction; at the marketplace, and advocating economic restrictions. But the issue here isn't the system itself; it's the societal attitude of material one-upmanship. The current state of runaway purchasing is only a reflection of capitalism in the same vein that a lazy, unproductive society of leeches is representative of communism. The economy hasn't been well managed on a cultural level. That doesn't mean that the tenets of economic freedom are bad in any way.

Market intervention won't stop people from keeping up with the Joneses. On the contrary, the bailout in the US and bank nationalizations around the world are actually crutches to the very people who chose to live above their means.

You can't have social freedom without economic freedom. Centralized economic control has to be accompanied by political repression to enforce the coercion, while economic growth under capitalism has historically led to democratization. The least economically restrictive countries score among the highest on the Human Development Index, while the most economically restrictive counties include North Korea, Zimbabwe, and Myanmar. Economic freedom has also been associated with higher incomes and life expectancy.

Yet people are pathetically quick to suckle on the teat on the nanny state and vindicate their own responsibility whenever a real or perceived crisis pops up. This undermines our ability to make choices for ourselves and leaves us increasingly dependant upon the competence of other people.

The free market is being portrayed as a chaotic roller-coaster ride in contrast with the order and organization of the state, but the government is also comprised of human beings whose tendency to act altruistically is as unreliable as the next person.

We need to accept our fuck-ups, stop attacking straw man capitalism, and not restrict the markets. Greed, laziness, and stupidity will persist, regardless of what economic system is in effect. If anything good can come out this recession, it'll be that we are taught fiscal responsibility out of necessity. Instead of wallowing in self-pity, let's work to usher in a cultural revolution of sustainability.

CODY CIVIERO
Opinion Editor



MIKE KENDRICK

LETTERS

Give credit where credit is due on sustainability

I would just like to make a brief comment on the article in Tuesday's *Gateway* on the U of A's grade in the "2009 College Sustainability Report" (re: "U of A earns B in sustainability report," 21 October).

I was somewhat disappointed by the glaring lack of mention of many campus groups and initiatives that are currently working towards building a sustainable campus. Most notably is the Campus Sustainability Coalition, who organized this week's "Sustainability Awareness Week." In addition, there are a number of academic and research bodies that are contributing and supporting important initiatives at the University of Alberta—these include the Environmental Research and Studies Centre (ERSC) and the School of Energy and Environment (SEE).

There are also other student and community groups working at the U of A, such as the Energy Club and the People's Pedal (who organized bicycle mechanic workshops). I appreciate that perhaps it wasn't possible to include all of these organizations in one article, but feel that it is important to point out that there are many other initiatives on campus working to improve sustainability in addition to those mentioned.

ZOE TODD
Grad Studies

Proof of residency is only an issue for drifters

Clayton Walden suggests that the story of the campaign is the difficulty in voting, linking it to the low voter turnout (re: "Barriers spur low turnout," 21 October). He points to his own inability to vote, as he doesn't have proof of residence. It should be noted, Mr Walden, that if you have a residence, you almost certainly have proof. I myself registered with my lease, signed only a few weeks prior. Even for the few somehow under the legal radar (perhaps you're sleeping on a friend's couch or in the midst of 24-month hotel stay), the criteria for proving residence is quite lenient. Regardless, I don't think it's a stretch to suggest that proving one's residence in a riding is a basic necessity for a fair vote.

Voter turnout has been dropping worldwide since the '60s. It is a trend neither new nor isolated, and a very real problem that voting agencies consciously try to counter. Turnout is an issue, but a social one, not a bureaucratic one. To attribute the bleak numbers to an uncommonly high number of citizens being "denied the right to vote" is simply ridiculous.

PETER ORGANISCIAC
Arts V

Pumpkin drop criticisms fall short of the van

This year we were criticized again for "wasting food" during our pump-

kin drop event (re: "Pumpkin drop a giant waste of time, food," 21 October). Our intended message for the event is that poverty isn't natural and can be overcome with thoughtful action. The pumpkin drop itself was a metaphor (the van being poverty and the pumpkin being intelligent action) and a reason to get people out to hear our message.

The purpose for the event was to raise awareness about the effect of poverty and the fact that not only are we able to do something, but that we already are through our everyday actions (our consumer choices, investments, government policies, etc). We just have to decide if we want that contribution to be negative or positive. We weren't trying to send food overseas or bake pumpkin pie to feed sub-Saharan Africa because those are short term solutions and long term solutions require more thoughtful action, like buying fair trade, investing in companies that create good jobs overseas, and donating or volunteering with NGOs that work on the root causes of poverty rather than band-aid solutions.

If Miguel d'Rossorio would have attended the event, seen the news coverage, or received one of the several hundred magnets we gave out, he would have heard that the pumpkin was never fit for human consumption due to the species of pumpkin, the pesticides used, and the hormones. The crane and operator was lent for free by Mammoet, all of the workers were volunteers, the rental of Varsity Field was free, and the van was donated by the Kidney

Foundation and then returned to be recycled. So thank you for your criticism, Miguel.

BEN CAMPBELL
VP Engineers without Borders, U of A

The mystery of the useless heart institute

The skills of a talented journalist are needed to investigate the mystery surrounding the Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute. It was officially opened this May and has yet to have admitted a single patient.

Taxpayers' money went into building this project and yet it can't be opened because of serious design flaws. This has to be brought to light and shoved into the public eye, otherwise it may never open. Please help.

ANONYMOUS
Via note in the third floor bathroom

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please).

The *Gateway* reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature. The *Gateway* also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program year of study, and student identification number to be considered for publication.

U of A prez wasting her breath

Whining about the ranking systems won't improve our quality of education



MIKE
KENDRICK

Back in 2005, when our fair University President Indira Samarasekera first sat upon her new throne, we lived in happier times. The economy was strong, Uwe Boll had just released his cinematic masterpiece *Alone in the Dark*, and Samarasekera, the incoming champion of democracy, proudly declared that our humble campus would be among the top 20 universities in the world by the year 2020.

"But Indira!" the people cried, "We are but a modest school! How can we, when placing research above education, ever hope to compete with the likes of such regal institutions as Oxford, Harvard, and Yale?" But Samarasekera would hear nothing of it, and insisted that it would be done.

Three years later, and the 2008 edition of the Times Higher Education-QS World University Rankings have just been released. Unfortunately for our fair president, things are looking pretty bleak. We're currently sitting at a stagnant 74th place—leaving 54 other universities to be conquered in the short span of 12 years. It's enough to make even Alexander the Great blush.

Luckily for us, though, the great Samarasekera has concocted a fail-proof plan to ensure that her impossible goal is reached. Employing the

kind of lateral thinking that one can only learn from a mechanical engineering degree, Indira has simply reinvented the wheel: rather than conform to the rigorous standards of any "real" or "respected" international ranking system, why not just create our own?

Just because you can't afford new cleats doesn't make you a worse quarterback—the fact is that John Hopkins from down the street is always going to be a better player than you.

That's right. It's a big world, with lots of tough opponents, so instead of facing off against the big dogs, the University is taking their ball and going home. Not to say that there's anything wrong with this tactic—I'm sure it'll work out for the best when they get back to the house and mom has set out some cookies and juice, and hung all of their prestigious accomplishments up on the fridge to show off to all the visitors.

According to Samarasekera, the Times rankings are "meaningless," because they don't—or can't—take into account the various factors preventing the U of A from shining just as bright as the world's top universities. It's similar to rationale she used when opting out of *Maclean's* own version of the university rankings.

Sorry Indira, but just because you can't afford new cleats doesn't make you a worse quarterback—the sad fact is that John Hopkins from down the street is always going to be a better player than you.

It doesn't help that our own SU President Janelle Morin is more or less complacent with Samarasekera's attitude on the matter. Rather than point out the glaringly obvious stupidity in boycotting and pouting over such criticism—the kind of behavior that would leave an aspiring Arts student dead in the water whilst in pursuit of any kind of legitimate career—Morin has given her full support to the agenda.

I suppose I was mistaken in thinking that it was the Students' Union's job to act as a voice for the students and raise questions about University decisions that fail to benefit the student body, because so far, the SU has failed to question this action at all. Instead, they continue to sink deeper into the public relations-driven black hole of roundabout pats on the back, with Morin's only comments on the issue equating to, "If Indira says it, then it must be true."

Call me a shit-disturber, but complacency isn't a typical element of my *modus operandi*. I can accept that the U of A won't be one of the best schools in the world within the next decade. I can't, however, accept the fact that our dear leaders are displaying such juvenile behavior on an issue that actually does matter. If both presidents have fallen into lockstep in this parade of nonsense, it's time for the rest of us to start asking some serious questions about the direction this institution is taking us and our tuition fees.



Snoopy's dreams of becoming a writer were quashed when publishers ridiculed him into stopping his submissions.

Our opinion editor is a little less of a dick than that, at least when it comes to dealing with new writers.

He would've given Snoopy some feedback and awaited his next draft, because that kid had talent, even if he plagiarized Edward Bulwer-Lytton once in a while.

GATEWAY OPINION:

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BC bear-slayer has been through enough



CONAL
PIERSE

It's no secret that a man and a bear are not evenly matched. They have the serious weight advantage, thick skin, and dagger-like claws and teeth tipping the scales heavily in their favour. So when I read that a BC area man managed to not only fend off, but also kill an attacking black bear with naught but a nearby stick, suffice it to say, I was quite impressed.

Jim West was out walking his two dogs when he came across a black bear and her two cubs. Not one to be caught off-guard, Mr West valiantly kicked the mother in the chest, but while this move is highly effective against human mothers, it served only to anger the she-bear. West was subsequently knocked to the ground and viciously mauled by the protective ursine.

Upon realizing that this fight would only end with the death of one of the two combatants, West grabbed a nearby stick, and proceeded to bash his opponent's skull in—though not before making the obligatory "bring it bitch" comment. A narrow victory by any means, and one so stunning that the two cubs had to be subsequently euthanized because of the trauma and shame their family endured at the

"This wasn't your cuddly cartoon variety bear that tries to steal picnic baskets, greedily slurps down honey, and warns children about fire safety either; this was an angry mother bear protecting her cubs, and it was very much a situation of life or death for both of them."

hands of West.

Were bear-fighting legal, this tale would surely have launched a very lucrative career. However, as things currently stand, Mr West is being harassed, not hailed. People are god-damn furious because he fought for his life and came out on top, and are now sending him angry emails and smearing his name by impersonating him in prank calls to local radio stations.

Allegedly, he's a terrible person because he fought off an attacker, as opposed to the usual courses of action. Had Mr West simply ran from the bear or allowed himself to bravely be killed, there would be little opposition to hunting down and murdering this bear family because they deserve it. But, apparently, when such a rudimentary club can be used to kill a bear, it must have been a poor, defenceless, innocent creature that never harmed anyone—aside from the 60-stitch wound to West's skull, though that was just a case of bears-will-be-bears.

This wasn't your cuddly cartoon variety bear that tries to steal picnic baskets, greedily slurps down honey, and warns children about fire safety either; this was an angry mother bear

protecting her cubs, and it was very much a situation of life or death for both of them. It's easy to try to apply rational thought after the fact to a situation such as this, but when confronted with several hundred pounds of angry fur and teeth, not much past "oh fuck" is processed.

West didn't have time to sit back and discuss things logically with the bear; he had to make a split-second decision, and it just so happened to save his life. While he could have chanced running, there's no guarantee that the bear wouldn't pursue, resulting in nothing but a change of scenery for where the eventual final confrontation would occur. Yes, it's sad that the cubs had to be destroyed, but this should be taken up with Parks Canada, not Jim West.

Perhaps if there were surrogate programs in place to raise the bears in captivity they wouldn't have to be killed. Then, these cubs could be given top-of-the-line combat training, and in a few years, be given a shot at avenging their mother's death. Then, when all that remains of Jim West is a half-eaten carcass, we could finally see him as a hero, and get behind the scared and angry bear lynch-mob.

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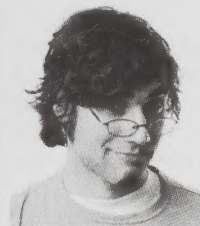
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Garment tricks make for a real treat

But costumes are difficult when you have to be smothered by winter clothing



DAVID
JOHNSTON

October's coming to an end, and everyone knows what that means. No, not mid-terms—no one still cares about those. I'm referring to Halloween; that fine and noble holiday where packs of ravenous children roam the streets hungry for blood and we must all hurl candy at them to appease their horrible rage.

Every Halloween is one of those critical events in a child's life that determines their future dreams and memories. My childhood Halloweens were unfortunately always hampered by a tag team of two key elements: Canadian winter, and a mother who was a doctor.

This meant that every fall, I received explicit and graphic illustrations of exactly what would happen to my brothers and me if we went outside without protective winter gear. ("And then, after your other hand falls off from frostbite, you'll begin losing feeling in what's left of your nose.") So naturally, we couldn't dress up in something as flimsy and delicate as, say, a costume.

So our Halloween costumes had to consist of a full-body covering in

several layers, including gloves, coat, full-facial toque-mask, and snow-pants. This explains why, for several years, my costume of choice was a ninja. Mostly because I couldn't think of anyone else who would wear those incredibly dorky masks unless they needed them as protection from a deadly gas attack, and even then only if your friends weren't looking.

My childhood Halloweens were unfortunately always hampered by a tag team of two key elements: Canadian winter, and a mother who was a doctor.

For some odd reason, my brothers often wound up dressing as ninjas too. Together we were a wandering ninja troupe of badasses, all under four feet tall. Sometimes we changed it up by dressing as samurai, which looks like a ninja with a stick.

It must have been a fearful sight: three masked ninjas waddling down the street, each encased in several metric tons of synthetic nylon and goose-down like they had just been released from the set of "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Mallard," waving their candy bags around fearlessly, shouting generic ninja shouts, and

occasionally walking into trees because "I treated a kid once whose eyeballs had frozen into blocks of ice, so you better be careful to keep them clenched shut when you're outside." Other parents must have just been wetting their pants in laughter to disguise their terror.

This was my childhood. Thanks, mom.

Nowadays, kids don't have to worry about dressing in layers because, thanks to the helpful contributions of global warming, the ambient temperature at the end of October is about that of a convection oven used to roast a pheasant. This means that kids today can walk around in skimpy, skintight costumes without a care in the world, and us cynical adults can hand treats out to an endless parade of Spider-Men, swimsuit models, surfer dudes, and nudists, all the while seething with anger and crushing the Fun-Size Snickers bars to a paste in our bitter, bony grips.

But why can't we dress up? I mean, even though we're all University students now, we all deserve one day a year to dress up like idiots and wander around making fools of ourselves. And since Convocation isn't for awhile, Halloween will have to do. So wear a costume to classes, demand candy from your professors, and if you have no ideas, like me, then just repurpose one of your nostalgic childhood outfits. This campus has no idea what's about to hit it: the goose-down ninja is on the prowl.

Party hearty, but always heed the template



PAUL
KNOECHEL

"There's no situation or set of conditions on a night of social gathering that 'the template' doesn't apply to. I know some whiny little bitch will assume that his party is different or that absolutes don't exist, so I'll repeat myself: 'the template' always applies. Always."

Anyone who has ever had the misfortune of being locked out of their house when they went to scoop up the morning paper after a long night of creative foreplay, without a house coat on, with an unfortunately timed seventh-grade birthday for a bitter and jaded child of a recent divorce who's been trying out his brand new camera by taking pictures of the neighbourhood, will tell you that knowledge is power. It's with that in mind that I share with all of you the only thing I'm qualified in any small way to talk about: partying.

What most people don't understand—and what those who try to host bigger and better parties, pub crawls, or club nights will want to cover up—is that there is no night of partying (or even hanging out) that doesn't follow "the template."

This template is, very simply put, the ultimate underlying framework for any time that you go out partying, whether you're going to a house party, a bar, a bush party, a field party, or just sitting and chilling in your basement. It applies whether you love to punish your liver with alcohol and your brain with cocaine, or you're a totally straight-edged individual. There's no situation or set of conditions on a night of social gathering that "the template" doesn't apply to. I know some whiny little bitch will assume that his party is different or that absolutes don't exist, so I'll repeat

myself: "the template" always applies. Always.

So now that "the template" is known to exist, you should be wondering why it matters. I promised knowledge you could use, and that's what I bring to you now. By understanding "the template" properly, any night out can be tailored and adapted to fight this immovable force of nature to bring out the best in your night.

By making some changes and innately understanding how your night's all going to go down before it actually does, you won't ever again have a self-prescribed "best night ever" that ends with you throwing up into your date's purse at some seedy, rundown motel. So let me run down how your nights (or days) shall structure themselves to optimize all that is awesome in them.

First comes the ignition phase. This is where it all gets going. Whether the party is four months down the line or you're struck with divine intervention and need to gather up some people in four minutes, you need to kick things off right. This phase is all about stacking the deck in your favour, and tailoring the hype time to the type of evening. Casual board games and cards in your basement are a couple hours; graduation banquet nights are a couple months. But whatever the situation, the point is to get a list of people that should be there, get them excited, and let the hype build.

Second step is your warm up phase.

This is perhaps the most important part of the whole night. Other phases will probably lead to more fun, but this is what everything else is built upon. If you're drinking, this is where the all-important pre-drink, occurs. This is where the evening will begin to ramp up, build steam, take off, and other random expressions meaning "short". This is where the night is made or broken. And the important thing about it is that you know when to end it. This isn't the thing to taper out, and to really take advantage of "the template," you have to cut it off at its height and change your venue. This phase is all about preparing you for the next phase—"the party."

If you're going out, this is where you end up. If you're staying in, this is where the tone makes a definite switch; where the night is officially rolling, and when you have nothing specific to do. If your first two steps were executed properly, all the cards are lined up, and now all you have to do is ride the wave. You don't even need to cut it off yourself, as it peters out pretty good on its own.

Last, your denouement. This may be as pronounced as a long drunken stumble home with video games before you pass out, or as brief as an "I'm the fuck outta here" in the bar. Make sure to get your conclusion from any business here, and don't draw it out—nobody likes a long goodbye.

Simple as that friends. Now, I'm the fuck outta here.

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HOMEBREW HORRORS

With just over a week left before the most wonderful time of the year, the chill of Halloween air is already nipping at our toes. But the limited time frame doesn't mean you have to be left out in the cold when it comes to arriving in style—after all, what other holiday offers the opportunity to become someone completely different and show off your true colours through the joy of costuming?

For many, a halloween costume is often an afterthought, thrown together with a white bed sheet and a pair of scissors, or by turning some intimate apparel into a clichéd, groan-inducing, "Sexy Anything" outfit. But if you really want to be the talk of this year's Halloween fashion show, it's easier than you'd think. With a bit of thrifty shopping, some basic arts and crafts supplies, and a dash of creativity, you can turn your out-of-shape Batman threads into an original Dark Knight.

Concept

Every work of art has to start with a concept before it can become a masterpiece. You won't get anywhere if you don't even have an idea to push you in the right direction.

Inspiration can come from many sources. You can rock your favourite comic book character's outfit, or go for something completely original. When you're dressing to impress on All Hallow's Eve, though, go with something that your peers will recognize. A tertiary character from the *Star Wars* expanded universe might be great for a sci-fi convention, but no matter how awesome his costume looks, if your friends don't get it, nobody is going to be wooed by your good looks.

That's why it's best to stick to one of two categories: popular faces or original concepts. If you choose to play up the celebrity factor, make sure you get it right. Anybody who's paid attention to the entertainment industry will instantly recognize a Darth Vader or Indiana Jones costume (provided that it's done right), but remember, the more mundane the character's look, the more you're going to have to put into the recognition factor.

Just like a political cartoon, mundane appearances are only helped by caricatures. If you're Tom Cruise, don't just do your hair and wear a black sweater; either find a *Top Gun* flight suit or a scientology-inspired alien prop. Likewise, Barack Obama is just a guy in a suit unless he's literally armed with a sword of democracy or a slain Republican elephant. Just try to avoid the blackface if you decide on this option.

If your chosen flavour of creativity comes in the form of a classic or concept costume, it has to sell itself with a first glance. It's hard to fuck up a zombie, vampire, or mummy, but it's very easy to be lazy about it. There's a very good chance that you won't be the only Frankenstein at this year's shindig, so make yours count. You don't want to be remembered as the one that looked like a green Gary Bussey—in an age of Facebook galleries, your reputation simply can't afford this kind of onslaught.

Finally, if your creative drive is such that you'll be wearing a visual pun, it's imperative that it comes across loud and clear. While the "One Nightstand" gag has been beaten to death at this point, there's still plenty of room for a Dali Llama, so long as it's not mistaken for a horse with a curly moustache.

And please, for the sake of original-

ity, under no circumstances should you be dressed as Heath Ledger's Joker this year. You'll understand why come next Friday.

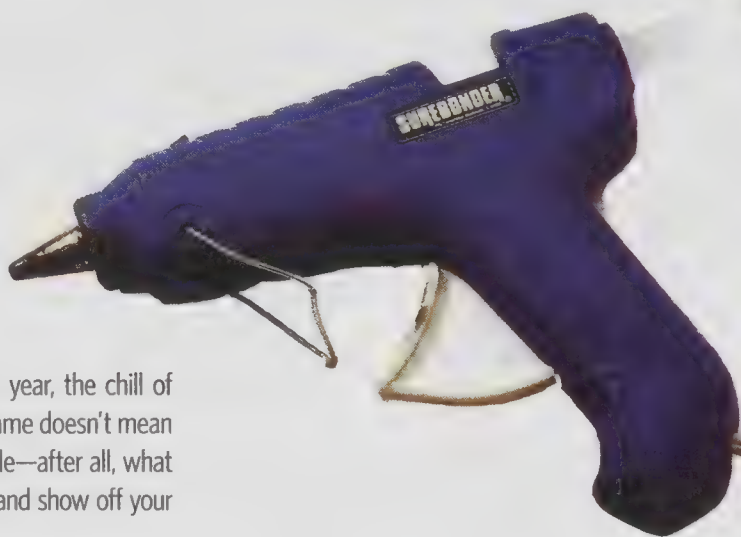
Raw Materials

Once you have an idea, it's time to collect supplies. Thrift stores will be your best friend at this stage, but it's vital to stay within the second-hand racks; Value Village has revamped their image as a Halloween hub this year, so it can be easy to get lost in the tray of their commercial products.

The most important rule when it comes to gathering materials is to avoid pre-mades. Packaged costumes out of a bag may seem like a quick fix in a last-minute panic, but your wallet and creative dignity will thank you for avoiding them. Most pre-assembled costumes only come with half of what the package photo depicts, leaving you to hunt for the accessories, each sold separately. They're also typically made of cheap, low-grade materials that look nothing like they're supposed to—like Burger King ads, the real thing is never as good as the picture. And with a bit of a treasure hunter's instinct, you should be able to track down a second-hand facsimile that'll go much further than a pre-made ever will.

The second major skill to hone in shopping is substitution. Although some costume details need to be spot-on, "close" counts in more than horseshoes and hand-grenades when it comes to assembling a costume replica. Just like shopping at H&M, purchasing a few basic items can lend themselves to a plethora of seasonal wardrobes. A white collared shirt can be distressed and bloodied for a zombie or a mailman gone postal, or tucked in for a vampire or Milton Woddams. That little black dress that's been in the back of your closet since graduation can just as easily be modified for a Morticia Adams as it can serve as a Carrie Bradshaw number. By training your eye to see the potential in the fashion basics, you'll improve the realism of your outfit without battering your bank account.

If your getup calls for more than just fabric, though, it's on to the craft store. Michaels is great for nearly everything you'll need from the ground up, but they can be a bit pricey. Once you pick up a reliable glue gun, a lot of materials can be found at Wal-Mart, in a Dollar Store, or even in a recycling bin—you'd be surprised how much you can accomplish with a few sheets of cardboard.*



Written by Mike Kendrick
Photos by Mike Kendrick and Pete Yee

Construction

While tracking down the right materials can be a task in itself, construction might seem like the most daunting task in costume assembly. But again, with a creative hand and some clever thinking, every problem can be solved with improvisation and substitution.

Whether your costume is based on pop culture or your own ideas, you need to keep visual references on hand at all times. Locate a handful of images from as many angles as you can find, or create them yourself. Having a perfect grasp of what your costume will look like from 360 degrees is essential; there's nothing terrifying about Lord Sauron if his ass is hanging out the back like he's wearing a hospital gown.

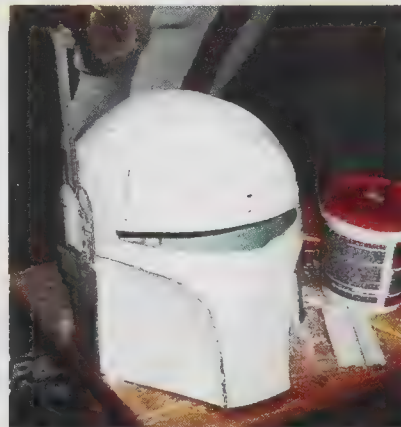
Google will be your best friend at this stage. Costume-making has a huge following online, and there are thousands of sites that deal with nearly every stage of costume creation.

Once you pick up a reliable glue gun, a lot of materials can be found at Wal-Mart, in a Dollar Store, or even in a recycling bin—you'd be surprised how much you can accomplish with a few sheets of cardboard.

You're likely to have better luck finding detailed tutorials for sci-fi and fantasy costumes, since us geeks tend to be compulsively anal about every last detail, but even general instructional sites like Instructables.com have more than enough information for building a kick-ass costume, and many have Halloween-specific sections that cater to creative types just like you.

If you're lucky enough to have found all of your costume's completed parts at the Salvation Army, then all that's left to do is piece it together. However, it's likely that something will need to be modified, or even built from the ground up—this means it's time to put those Art and Home Economics class skills to the test.

*That Boba Fett helmet is assembled entirely from cardboard and crack filler.





Scratch Builds

Construction from scratch ("scratch-building") might seem scary if the most artistic project you've ever finished was your macaroni-and-sparkles self-portrait in kindergarten, but many of the required skills can be learned fairly quickly. If you can use a glue gun and a pair of scissors, you can build a suit of armour out of cardboard. If you can fingerpaint, you can apply gore makeup—in fact, the rougher it looks, the more convincing the trauma will appear.

Painting is as simple as knowing how to use masking tape and aim an aerosol can. And while sewing might be out of your range, there's a good chance your aunt or arty friend is willing to modify your trench coat for the price of some candy corn. In fact, if there's any element of a costume out of your range, help is never very far away. If you're smart and hang out with the kind of people that have *real* skills, it's likely that one of them can do just the kind of work you need to turn a boring Robin Hood costume into a deluxe-edition Legolas outfit, complete with realistic battle damage and kung-fu grip.

That said, some of the basic skills needed to create a passable costume can be learned quite fast. Most heavy duty tasks like precision power tool cutting, sanding, and soldering can be at very least learned, if not mastered, in the span of an afternoon. And if something seems completely out of your range, always remember how to substitute. Halloween costumes don't have to mimic the original costume's materials perfectly, so foam rubber and starched fabric can effectively stand in for metal and plastic, as long as it's done properly.

If you can fingerpaint, you can apply gore makeup—in fact, the rougher it looks, the more convincing the trauma will appear.



Getting into Character

You're almost there. Once you've washed your hands of sawdust and paint stains and bandaged up any sewing-needle-induced wounds, it's time to complete the look.

Accessories are key to any convincing costume. Vader has his lightsaber, Lody has his whip, Carrie has her cosmopolitans, and a mime has his invisible box. Finding the right props is simple; knowing what's practical and what's a hindrance is what's important. At a crowded party in a small house, you'll only draw the evil eyes of onlookers if your Spartan warrior spear is jabbing every other partygoer, and Neo is likely to stay sober all evening if he clings to his dual machine guns with too much zeal.

When it comes to weapons, it's in your best interest to know what's appropriate. While prop guns are fine

if it's obvious it's a part of your costume, there's a reason why toy makers stick those little orange caps on the end. Be smart about your hardware, and don't go waving around something that looks real in a crowded street. The post-9/11 fearmongers will thank you later.

Finally, if you're going to walk the walk, it helps to talk the talk. You don't need to be a drama major to sell your costume effectively, but chances are, you can already identify with your character to a certain extent if you've come this far in donning the duds. Memorizing the script for your character's lines isn't necessary, but dropping a one-liner here and there will assure your fellow Halloweeners that you're not just some poser using a Jack Sparrow costume as an excuse to wear eyeliner.

Transforming Yourself into a Zombie

Like Value Village will tell you, you can create a convincing costume for under 15 bucks. With some cream makeup, a Q-tip, and some fake blood, transforming yourself into the undead couldn't be any easier.

Prior to putting on the makeup, wash your face and apply any gore effects (fake burns, wounds, etc) to the skin. If the colour of the latex or putty doesn't match your skin, don't fret; that's what the makeup is for.



STEP 1 Apply a white base coat using a small sponge, using a Q-tip to work around your eyes. Make sure to cover all exposed skin without getting any in them. Blend it into your hairline too; when was the last time you saw a zombie with a perfect pompadour?



STEP 2 Dab some black around your eyes, below your cheekbones, and down your neck. In death, the eyes sink deeper into the sockets, while the flesh around the cheeks tightens against the skull. You can't do this without some serious botox work, but much like the ladies apply blush and highlighting, the shadows will simulate the effect.



STEP 3 With more white makeup on the end of a Q-tip, start blending it into the dark spots. The ultimate goal is a uniform gray over your whole face, maintaining darker grays when you applied the black, with lighter grays contrasting everywhere else.



STEP 4 Continue blending, adding more black and white makeup to reach the desired effect, throwing in a dab of green to achieve a truly putrid look. Don't be afraid to be a bit rough at this point. The makeup will start to dry, and some might flake off, but this is fine—flesh doesn't rot in a uniform manner, so it makes sense to keep a few "fresh" spots here and there.



STEP 5 Add the blood. Use a non-toxic water-based blood, or make your own by mixing white corn syrup, food colouring (5 parts red to 1 part blue), and a bit of water until the desired consistency is reached. Go heavy around your lips and mouth like you've just had a fresh feast. Don't be afraid to let it stain your teeth and let it drip down the sides of your chin like a glutton. It sounds gross, but you're the one that wanted to dress up as a zombie. Apply some trauma spots, especially around facial orifices, and in any of the special effect wounds that you applied at the start. Allow about 15 minutes for it to dry before attempting to consume any beverages. Accessorize with a tattered, blood-stained outfit, and be sure to get the red stuff all over your hands, too.

SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

Tim Smith

Album Release Party
Friday, 24 October at 8pm
Haven Social Club (15120 Stony Plain Road)

After six years of of pounding away at Edmonton's music scene, local artist Tim Smith is set to debut his first album in style at the Haven Social Club.

With the help of his close friends and support from other Edmonton locals, Smith has managed to go from ambitious new artist to band leader. The new record is sure to be full of big strings, lush orchestration, and upbeat melodies. And with ambitions to soon kick off an international tour, what better way to get into the swing of things than one last show for your home town.

All Power To The People!

Graphics of the Black Panther Party, 1966-1974

23 October to 29 November
Opening reception: 23 October at 7pm
SNAP Gallery (10309-97 St)

The Black Panther party have always been a controversial movement. Propelled by Marxist/Maoist philosophies and promoting often violent self-defense of African-Americans from racist treatment, they have, since the '60s and '70s, crept into the realm of pop-culture folklore.

Although their numbers may have faded in recent years, the artwork of their heyday is still crisp and visible as ever. Presented by the Society of Northern Alberta Print-artists (SNAP), the exhibit will display party posters and newspaper graphics that document the Panthers' involvement with a broad array of causes, including opposition to the Vietnam War and solidarity with the United Farm Workers movement.

Oh Susanna!

Saturday, 25 October at 11pm
Varscona Theatre (10329-83 Ave)

Having trouble getting in the mood for Halloween? Well, the slinky Susanna Patchouli and her scant wardrobe might be able to give you a jump start. Viewers be warned! A night with La Patchouli and her Euro-style variety spectacle "Oh Susanna"—now in its tenth season—might not be all that it initially seems. Overly curious guests will be shocked by her full, startling, Halloween package. Join Susanna along with her co-host Eros, God of Love, as well as the manic magician Blizzard the Wizard and cast members of the Mayfield Theatre's Little Shop of Horrors.

Audience members are encouraged to wear costumes and \$10 tickets will be discounted to \$7 for Die-Nasty members and Teatro La Quindicina subscribers.

Celine Dion

24-25 October at 8pm
Rexall Place (7424-118 Ave)
\$64.73-\$520.00 at ticketmaster.ca

She can be your hero, baby! Oh wait, that's Enrique Iglesias. But, let's look at the facts: both wait their way through mopey ballads with clumsy ESL voices, both love cheesy music videos and shtickey "amour," and both are poster children for the horrible, horrible potential of wanton musical advertising—a sure sign of a foreign conspiracy.

Whether she's part of your favourite comedy routine or you'd die for her tonight, everyone can agree that, with the cheapest nosebleed seats in the house sitting around \$60, none but the most dedicated Titanic fans will be coming to this gig.

SEAN STEELS
Gold Leader



Unzipping the hard truth about wangs

The cast of *CockTales* work to overcome fears about that dangly thing between every male's legs

theatrepreview

CockTales

Directed by Ron Jenkins
Starring Sean Bowie, Joel Cochrane, Doug McKeag, Stan Janz, and Ryan Luhning
23-26 October (8pm on 23 and 24 October, 2pm and 8pm on 25 October, 7pm on 26 October)
Myer Horowitz Theatre (SUB)
\$39.50 at ticketmaster.ca

SARAH MALIK
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Seven years ago when *CockTales*—a theatrical production billed as a frank discussion about all things penis-(and to a lesser extent, testicle-) related—began its run in Calgary, an 83-year-old woman hobbled into the show, leaning on a cane.

"We had a cabaret style with a bar, so she sat down, watched the show, had two martinis, and we were just like, 'what's this old lady doing here?'" recalls Sean Bowie, one of the profanity-filled show's creators and actors. "After the show, she sent word back that she really wanted to meet the cast, and she says to us, 'I had six sons, and I had no idea that they went through this!' And she had a tear in her eye; she was very emotional."

"This" refers to everything from getting-kicked-in-the-crotch yuk yuk stories, tales about erectile problems and vasectomies, as well as pathos-filled tear-jerkers like a son returning home to care for his dying father and helping him urinate by holding his penis above a bottle. In short, as Bowie describes them, "the personal mysteries within us that we don't share with each other" and that define men as men. If the way to a man's heart is through his stomach, then the road to discovering his vulnerability starts from his penis.

Bowie dismisses stereotypes about the show that say it's "just a dumb litany of names for

your dong"—though he admits that there's some of that, too. Rather, he sees it being predominantly like *The Vagina Monologues*, which was the initial inspiration for *CockTales*. Like the monologues for women, the show wants to get at the essence of masculinity and push past the hangups from previous generations that prevent men from talking about their genitals candidly.

"We want to reveal the agonies of men around their penis. And sometimes this takes a funny form. Some stories are ridiculous, absolutely ridiculous. One is about a boy who's having his first wet dream and getting his first erection. And it's really quite obtrusive. We've all felt alone—we've all felt awkward and embarrassed when that happened. As part of the scene, we have the rest of the cast play little devils—the voice of his penis.

"Performing in the show has made me open up and become easy with this. If I had a problem now, I don't think I would hesitate going to the doctor and saying, 'hey, my balls are as big as pineapples!'"

SEAN BOWIE
ACTOR, COCKTALES

"It's like a B-horror movie, where a monster just shows up and ruins your life," Bowie chortles. "And we have three guys who are road-side workers. One guy gets heat ointment for sore muscles and he gets that on his scrotum and it just burns like hell. Another guy gets a rash and another gets bitten by a dog."

Bowie notes the stories are meant to be light-hearted, but still have "heart" behind them.

Since the Reformation in Europe, when popes and other collectors started covering the penises of Greek and Roman statues with fig leaves, men's genitals became a focus of shame,

secrecy, and sin. Flash forward to the present era of Judd Apatow films and genuine male problems are camouflaged in comedy while penises are lampooned onscreen.

While their show generally maintains a humorous note, Bowie suggests the secrecy over the ages has taken its toll on men. Many men are hesitant to talk to their doctors about medical problems around the penis, let alone tell each other so they can get support.

He would know. One of the three monologues he performs relates a personal experience about his battle with depression and erectile dysfunction caused by the antidepressants he was prescribed.

"So I've been a bit depressed," he shrugs and launches into his monologue, adopting an affected performance voice. "One afternoon I woke up and realized: I hadn't shaved in days; I hadn't changed my jammies in weeks; I hadn't answered the phone; I hadn't gotten out of bed; I hadn't done anything but cry and sleep for what seemed like a century.

"And I'm lucky, I suppose, because of all the side effects that I could get [from the antidepressants], I only got one. But boy, did I get it."

The bawdy undertones are there, but *CockTales* doesn't address the issue of sex per se, concentrating more on a man's relationship with his penis. Bowie wants boys as young as 16 years old to attend so they can learn their concerns are not as atypical and permanent as they may seem.

The show has been staged by Ground Zero Theatre in Calgary to great success for many years now; however, the Edmonton shows represents *CockTales*' first foray northward. The hope, according to Bowie, is to take it global because he's convinced the issues addressed in the show are universal male concerns.

"We've all had something going on with our dicks. Each one of us probably has half a dozen stories. Performing in the show has made me open up and become easy with this. If I had a problem now, I don't think I would hesitate going to the doctor and saying, 'hey, my balls are as big as pineapples!'"

Bedouin balances feeling the night, staying out of trouble

musicpreview

Bedouin Soundclash

With Mishka and Hey Ocean
Saturday, 25 October at 7pm
Edmonton Events Centre (8882-170 St)
\$28.50 at ticketmaster.ca

BEN DEXTRAZE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

"Everything has influenced our sound—from Paul Simon, to The Clash, to Sam Cook, to James Brown. I just don't like talking about it because it's difficult to explain."

Bedouin Soundclash's sound clash is a conundrum, at least from the perspective of their lead singer and guitarist Jay Malinowski. The Canadian musical talent tries to explain how his band takes a whirlwind of eclectic influences and stirs them together to get their popular folk sound—that, and how a bunch of students from Queen's University made it big by playing music.

"Have someone describe a painting to you and they could try telling you everything about it. They could talk about it for three hours describing the brush strokes, but if you looked at it for ten seconds, you would learn more than someone could tell you in a year," Malinowski says. "This, for me, is the same for music; just listen to [our music] and tell me what you think."

Earning a degree in Art History from Queen's University only seemed to direct Malinowski into another field of artistic expression. While at Queen's, he formed a band with his friends and fellow students Eon Sinclair and Pat Pengelly—but they still needed a name. Oddly enough, the name Bedouin Soundclash was taken from the first CD released by an Israeli musical fusionist called Badawi.

"Badawi is an Israel dub artist who lives in New York. He put a lot of musical experimentation onto a CD and called it *Bedouin Soundclash*,"

Malinowski explains. "I just really love the music of his first CD—it has such a great rhythm. When we first started playing, I said we sounded like *Bedouin Soundclash* because we had a hand drummer; after that the name just stuck."

After the band had got things rolling, they were still pretty conservative about their collective lifestyle. They opted to work harder within the success they were finding than go out drinking after their shows.

"We didn't party our faces off when we were students. We took playing in a band really seriously—that's what we wanted to do," Malinowski continues. "We would be at parties playing, but then we would go home. Or, we would pack up our equipment while everyone was getting drunk and drive off to do another show in London, Ontario or Montreal or somewhere."

However, after graduating from the toils of academia, the band found a new freedom and proceeded to succumb to the enticing lifestyle that most musicians fall effortlessly into.

"We went on an endless tour after school ended and basically had to do a pretty serious head check—it was in the past few years. I think we tried to get everything out of our system that we hadn't got out of us while we were in school. Some of us really cut loose, but in the end, we realized that moderation is the key to life," Malinowski says. "When you play in a band, you're not a regular citizen. You're not really waking up at six in the morning; you're in your own world and that can be a really dangerous thing. It also makes you extremely unintelligent, uninteresting, and self-absorbed."

Edmonton is the final destination for Bedouin Soundclash's touring in 2008, but in their time off, Malinowski explains that he's planning a solo album as well as another disk with his fellow band members to follow up on their 2007 release *Street Gospels*.

"I hope our next record is a bit more classic and soul influenced. I also want some ska; we're playing with the idea of putting horns on the next album since we've had them on tour."



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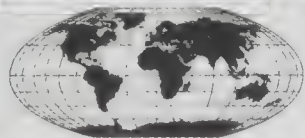
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TENTATIVE AGENDA:

- Introductory remarks
- Approval of 2007-2008 GSJS Audit (Allen & Associates)
- Announcements
- Refreshments

All members (i.e., those with five or more Gateway contributions in the 365 days prior to 28 October and who have registered for membership with a Gateway editor) are asked to attend. If you have made five or more contributions to the Gateway in the 365 days prior to 28 October and would like to become a member, please contact the Editor-in-Chief at eic@gateway.ualberta.ca. This meeting is also open to the public.

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Policy Studies

Dough peers into the culture of Martha

theatrepreview

Dough: The Politics of Martha Stewart

Directed by: John Hudson
Written by Lindsay Burns
Starring Coralie Cairns
23 October–9 November at 7:30pm,
Saturday–Sunday 2pm matinees
Varscona Theatre (10329–83 Ave)
\$22 for students at
tixonthesquare.com

DAVID JOHNSTON
Arts & Entertainment Staff

"There is no Martha Stewart in the play," announces John Hudson, Shadow Theatre's Artistic Director (die-hard Stewart worshippers may accordingly stop reading now). "It's all about the politics of Martha Stewart. I wouldn't have been interested in the piece if it just parodied Martha."

Hudson is speaking about the opener of Shadow Theatre's new season, *Dough: The Politics of Martha Stewart*.

"What I find so interesting about Martha is that she's this incredibly high-powered businesswoman, yet where she has made her money is in the domestic arts. So she, as this icon of business, has narrowly forced women into this little keyhole of domestic-goddess ideals. And it's one thing when you have ten servants to look after everything, but another when you're a normal human being. Like making gingerbread houses out of antique architectural blueprints," laughs Hudson, who immersed himself in Martha Stewart culture prior to directing the play.

Dough is a series of comedic and thoughtful vignettes about nine different women each learning to cope with the homemaker's hallmarks, from



the society debutante throwing the most extravagant party in her circle of friends, to the homeless woman with intimate details of Martha's incarceration. Each scene is thematically titled and linked, accordingly, to a recipe for bread dough—"Yeast," "Water And Salt," "Punch Down," and so on in that manner—and each is portrayed by Shadow's leading lady, Coralie Cairns.

The play is the original concoction of Calgarian playwright Lindsay Burns, who originally toured the show through Edmonton at the 2006 Fringe. And while the Shadow Theatre incarnation is the official Edmonton main-stage debut for any of Burns' works, that prestige isn't what brought Hudson to the script in the first place.

"I've known Lindsey Burns since she was four years old and I was six," grins Hudson. "She sends me all her work and we went to University together, so we're pretty tight. That's one of the nice things of being able to do this piece, because it's the first play of hers that I've taken on."

Hudson adds that many of Burns' other one-act plays are simply too short for Shadow Theatre's mandate. *Dough*, however, rose to the company's needs,

with a ninety-minute running time and a heaping spoonful of political commentary kneaded in.

"There's quite the gamut of how Lindsey works it in there; it's both upfront and sneaky," says Hudson who, when researching the play, found the lack of anything openly political in Martha Stewart's oeuvre surprising.

"There's Oprah out there putting all kinds of interesting political things in her magazine, but you don't see any of that in Martha—it's just how to make a wonderful cranberry wreath for Christmas." (Ironically, Burns toured her Oprah-poking show, *The Vagina Monologues*, through New York the past summer.)

Still, there's plenty in *Dough* that sticks to the satirical edge associated with Martha's domesticity. "I think it'll give audiences context to know a little bit about what's being parodied, but I don't think it's necessary to know everything," Hudson notes. "We all know the basic persona, so we can bring that in with us and let the play take over from there."

"There's lots of good laughs in the show and there's lots to take away afterwards."

Fembots call out using "junkstrumments"

musicpreview

Fembots

With *Octoberman*
Saturday, 25 October at 9pm
The Pawn Shop (10551–82 Ave)

SARAH MALIK
Arts & Entertainment Staff

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times."

As Fembots heads into a Canada-wide tour, lead singer Dave MacKinnon alludes to Charles Dickens' famous line, chuckling about the contradictions of being on tour. Even though the new people, experiences, and the chance to share their music thrill the 36-year-old MacKinnon, he laments having to leave his wife and family behind, sometimes for months on end, and describes the exhaustion of playing show after show as "terrible."

"It's a disruption to the home life and I don't think any of our spouses are crazy about it," says MacKinnon, on the phone from his native city Toronto. "But if you're a musician, it's unavoidable."

This is true particularly for Canadian bands. MacKinnon notes that the situation has improved for Canadian artists in terms of opportunity and recognition over the past ten years. But since the country's population is so small, it's not only a matter of breaking into the market, but also finding the market, which turns out to be more elusive than many realize.

"If you're a strange sounding band, then you're only going to appeal to two per cent of the population. That is a huge number of people in America, but here, it's really nothing."

So MacKinnon and the rest of the band maintain two lives; they are musicians, but are forced to hold day jobs since money is always a concern. MacKinnon is a record producer, but some of the other members of Fembots do home renovation, house painting, and carpentry.

The band also made the decision to put their entire fourth album, *Calling Out*, online on their MySpace, as well as sites like iTunes. MacKinnon rationalizes this decision by stating that there's simply no other alternative for many Canadian bands.

"The hardest thing for a musician is to get people to listen to their record. So pretty much anything you can do to make that happen is worthwhile even if you don't get money from it," MacKinnon explains. "When we're lucky, everything breaks even and pays for itself but mostly you get your cash anywhere you can, really."

But whatever struggles they might face, the band has acquired a strong reputation for an experimental style and are recognized for their penchant for pushing the limits of aural construction.

Many of the instruments they use—called "junkstrumments" since they're assembled from scavenged materials—are an attempt to depart from the tired ingredients of every rock record. But MacKinnon maintains that their music is still very much the product of jamming and improvisation, and

they still go through the familiar steps of making a record. Like other musicians, MacKinnon says they stick to the familiar until they hit on a tune that they can then coax into a song.

The instruments are created by Toronto-based visual artist Dave Souster, who is neither, as one may suspect, a greasy-faced teenager short on money to buy proper instruments nor tone deaf. His creations are completely home-made, and were so integral to the production of *Calling Out* that Souster essentially became part of the band.

"Most of them don't bear resemblance to traditional instruments," says MacKinnon. "They're these strange creations that Dave makes out of pretty much anything we bring to him. He also scavenges. He picks up stuff in the garbage and puts it together. I don't even know how he comes up with these ideas."

Probably the most notorious of these products of Souster's surreal, Lewis Carroll-esque imagination is something MacKinnon and the rest of the band have christened the Bowafridgeaphone, an alarmingly large, five-and-a-half-foot tall contraption.

"It's a large box that has a bunch of strings on it and springs inside of it, and then it also has metal refrigerator shelving attached to it," MacKinnon describes. "The whole thing is a rather odd looking, confounding instrument."

"While on the surface our music seems straight-forward, there's a layer under all of that of weirdness because of junkstrumments like this."

Tagaq prides herself on motherhood, collaboration

Hailing from Nunavut, the Inuit singer takes a break from raising her baby to release an album featuring friends both old and unknown

musicpreview

Tagaq

With *Cris Derksen and Michael Red*
Saturday, 25 October at 7pm
McDougall United Church
(10025-101 St)
\$18 at ticketmaster.ca

PAUL BLINOV

ent Staff

In the days leading up to her Canadian tour, Tanya Tagaq Gillis is trying to remain as bored as possible.

The Nunavut-born singer—who performs using her middle name as a moniker—is more than happy to be taking her dreamy brand of musical emoting across the country, from Vancouver to Toronto. But leaving her five-year-old daughter behind in school while she crosses the country is a different story; one that causes her maternal instincts to swell up.

"I don't want to leave my baby," she says. "I just love her so much, and I love her every single day, and I love every new thing she does—she's learning to read. I'll get really depressed if I'm not bored, so I try to be as much as a typical housewife as possible so that when I go on tour, I find it exciting."

Her forthcoming travels are in support of *Auk/Blood*, her second alluring disc of strange wonders.

Gillis has a unique take on throat singing. Traditionally performed by pairs of women in a call-response fashion, she performs the guttural

vocal style solo, then mixes it with her voice's naturally sweeter, siren-like calls. She layers those vocals atop striking string sections, floating ethereal soundscapes, and even beatboxing courtesy of Vancouver MC Shamik Bilgi.

He's only one of several guests on *Auk/Blood*. Gillis assembled a genuinely eclectic mix of collaborators for the album, including Bilgi, frequent Björk collaborator and former front-man of Faith No More Mike Patton, as well as folksy-rapper Buck 65.

"I'll get really depressed if I'm not bored, so I try to be as much as a typical housewife as possible so that when I go on tour, I find it exciting."

TANYA TAGAQ GILLIS

"I've known Buck 65 since about 1995," she explains. "When I went to school in Halifax, he was there. We were in the same circle of friends and got to know each other. He's a dear friend of mine. The only person on this album that isn't a friend of mine is Mike Patton."

"I haven't met him face to face yet, so at some point, I will meet him, and we will eat food, and be friends," she adds with a laugh.

It's fitting that Gillis is getting by

with a little help from her friends, considering the amount of guesting she's done herself.

One of her first breaks came when word-of-mouth buzz reached the ears of Björk, who subsequently invited Gillis to join her 2001 tour. The pair went on to collaborate frequently on each other's work: Björk's pixie voice can be heard on Gillis' first release, while the throaty-contributions of Tagaq can be found on multiple Björk albums. Gillis soon found a number of other artistic invitations sent her way, including a Halloween-themed single for a UNICEF benefit and performances with the fabled Kronos Quartet.

So when it came time to make her sophomore album, Gillis had quite the pool of friends to draw from.

"I just picked people who could do things that I can't," she says. "All the sounds they make change all the sounds you make. It changes the feel, y'know? If you were alone, you had only your emotion, but if you're with somebody, their emotion has a lot to say, too."

"I never judge people on their jobs, on who they are, or what they do, because they could be a total dipshit or a total asshole," she continues, before reverting to her motherly tone. "You don't want hang out with someone like that. You've got to meet them first. But I've been lucky enough with the people I've collaborated with: they've been totally amazing, humble, and they take their talent with such grace. I just don't have tolerance for people who take themselves too seriously."



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PETE YEE

ONE GIANT LEAP FOR MANKIND Matthew Cardoza (40) takes flight and snatches the rebound.



PETE YEE

WHY CAN'T WE BE FRIENDS? Pandas forward Anneka Bakker (20) jostles for ball possession.

U of A hoops looking to net season's first wins

Bears hope to rebound from difficult preseason versus BC rivals

NICK FROST
SPORTS EDITOR

Looking to build on a season that saw them surpass their own expectations and earn a berth at the CIS Championship, the Golden Bears basketball team will open up the 2008/09 Canada West season this weekend in a two-game set against the Victoria Vikes and the UBC Thunderbirds.

Coming into the doubleheader against their western counterparts, however, the team must first recover from a disappointing end to their preseason. After starting out strong with victories against the U of A Alumni, Mount Royal, and York University, the Bears went into what head coach Don Horwood believes was a tailspin, suffering losses against Waterloo and Université du Québec à Montreal. The longtime Alberta bench boss believes that, in the grand scheme of things, this year's team is capable of greater things than 2007/08's squad, but isn't as sure of that sentiment after watching the recent performances.

"I'm looking forward to which team shows up on Friday night," Horwood said. "I'm pretty confident in my own mind that these guys are going to shake off this last weekend and we'll get back to playing what we're capable of playing. To be honest with you, I was in shock—it shocked me. I didn't think it was possible for us to play as badly as we did."

"I think this is a better team than we had last year—but, that being said, they have to make their mark. If we had been talking at a different time, I would've said that the sky's the limit for them. Right now, I'm just so surprised by the meltdown last Saturday night that I'm not sure which way we're going to go."

One thing that should help Alberta get back on the right track is the veteran-laden roster that will lead the charge back to nationals. While the Bears will have to push forward without Canada West All-Star Alex Steele, team captain and fourth-year guard Harvey Bradford will lead a squad that still boasts a high-powered offence with names like fifth-years Neb Aleksic and Justin VanLoo, and

fourth-year CG Morrison. Horwood knows that the competition will be fierce down the stretch and stresses the importance of a good start early in the season.

"At the beginning, when we got together and started practicing, I thought we were going to have a very good team," Horwood explained. "That being said, we were surprised to get to nationals last year. Calgary was certainly a better team than we were, as was UBC—Brandon was also in the mix, as well as Victoria, and a few others. We're basically in the same mix we were with last year, and it's really going to boil down to how we're going to play in big games. There aren't going to be many bigger ones than what we're facing this weekend—and it's pretty early in the season to have to face big tests right away, but that's the way it is."

Game one of the weekend set will see the Bears battle the Victoria Vikes—a team known within the Canada West ranks for their defensive prowess.

"Victoria isn't as dynamic offensively as UBC is, but they're very methodical," Horwood said. "They're very hard to score against, and really make you work to get those easy buckets. They've got a lot of guys that are veterans—they might not have the names that UBC does, but they've got guys who can score and play defence."

The challenge becomes even bigger for Alberta on Saturday night as they step onto the court against the defending Canada West Champion UBC Thunderbirds.

"UBC are considered the class of Canada West," Horwood noted. "They have pretty well all their players back and they're going to be a very tough matchup in Canada West for anybody—their big guys are very mobile up front, and their guards are very experienced and great shooters. It's going to take a tremendous effort and ball game from us to give us a chance to beat UBC."

Alberta squares off against Victoria on Friday night and UBC on Saturday night at the Main Gym. Tipoff for both games goes at 8pm.

NICK FROST
SPORTS EDITOR

The Pandas basketball team will look to continue their flawless play of late as they open up the regular season against the Victoria Vikes and the UBC Thunderbirds. After going a perfect 9-0 in the preseason against CIS opposition, Alberta will look to continue its momentum and establish a good early position in the national rankings.

Head coach Scott Edwards couldn't be happier with the way his team has looked coming into 2008/09, but still hopes that the team can cross over their recent success and strong play into the games that actually have meaning.

"I'm thrilled with this team—they're playing unbelievably well," Edwards said. "The leaders have really set a good example of how we want to play at this school with their tempo and style of play. Right from our three fifth-year kids who've returned—Ashley [Wigg], Kristin [Jarock], and Katie [Barrett]—they're doing a great job early on setting the tempo, and the young kids who've come in have really taken their lead and are playing with them everyday."

Though early speculation placed a question mark around team chemistry given the large number of first-years amongst a fading group of veterans, the team so far appears to be meshing in just the way that Edwards had hoped. The implementation of a mentorship between veterans and newcomers has paid dividends, as it has created positive relationships among the girls that coach Edwards believes translates onto the court.

"I think right from the beginning, when we paired [the veterans and the newcomers] up and gave the veterans mentorship roles, so that they were in charge of making sure that everything in their day-to-day lives and on the floor was going well, everyone's done a good job of recognizing team chemistry and really bringing these kids in and making them feel welcome," Edwards explained.

However, the team is still aware that proving their chemistry in exhibition matches is really

meaningless unless similar efforts are put up in the Canada West regular season. Now that game from here on out will count, Edwards sees this as a perfect chance for his team to come together as a unit and forge their identity as a strong contender within the conference.

"These games will give us a good opportunity to get our identity going and decide on who we're going to be as a team this year," Edwards said. "I think that they know the significance of playing in Canada West, as well as how important these games are and how good these teams are that are coming here this weekend."

Alberta's first challenge of the year will come against the Victoria Vikes on Friday night. The Pandas view the Vikes as a team on the rise, and one that they believe they'll be jostling with for the top for position down the stretch.

"Victoria's much improved from last year—they're not as big as they were, but they shoot the ball better than they did a year ago, so that'll be a challenge for our perimeters to contain their penetration and their shooting touch," Edwards said. "They're going to be one of those upper echelon teams in the conference this year, so it's going to be a really good game on Friday night."

On Saturday, the Pandas battle last year's Canada West Champions from UBC. These two teams squared off in the preseason, with Alberta coming out on top 65-44; however, Edwards knows that this time around, it will be a much harder task to knock off the T-Birds.

"UBC are the defending national champions coming in, so anything goes with them," Edwards said. "We have to find a way to compete—we played well with them early on in the preseason, but they were missing a couple of key players to injury, and they'll be back now. They're starting to find their way again, so it'll be a different UBC team, but a very competitive and talented team that we need to jump on early in the year."

The Pandas battle their coastal opponents at the Main Gym, starting with Victoria on Friday night at 6pm, and concluding with UBC on Saturday night also at 6pm.



BRENNAN MURPHY

GOOD THING SHE WAS WEARING SHINGUARDS Pandas striker Christina Le (21) stops short of the oncoming tackle. She is one of three players graduating this year, along with midfielder Michelle Mueller and defender Lisa Annicchiarico.

Pandas face must-win scenario

A single victory is all that currently separates women's soccer from playoff berth

NICK FROST
Sports Editor

With their playoff lives on the line and only one victory needed to assure a spot in the Canada West top six, the U of A women's soccer team will battle their southern-Alberta counterparts—the Calgary Dinos (4–5–3) and Lethbridge Pronghorns (4–5–3)—at home this weekend.

The Pandas come into the two matchups feeling like they have a decent shot of playing beyond this weekend—Alberta's women currently sit in a six-team race with three open spots, and are currently ahead of four those teams in the standings. Despite the likelihood of clinching, the Pandas don't simply want to secure a spot and move on—they want to make a bold statement to cap

off their regular season.

"We kind of have an advantage in that we only need one win; however, the way that we as a team are looking at it right now is that we want to show that we're contenders," Jepsen said. "We don't want to just be fourth or fifth, but that we're one of the best in the best conference in CIS.

"The girls have it, almost in their guts, the feeling of what it's like to absolutely need that win. So I don't think that, at this point in time, it's a big mental game—they know that there's a job to be done, and they're ready and willing to do the task."

Alberta had a marginal degree of success against both the Calgary Dinos and the Lethbridge Pronghorns this season—the Bears managed a tie and a win respectively, while the Pandas didn't fare as well, picking up a tie and

a loss. Jepsen knows that, most importantly, her team needs to do a better job of coming together as a cohesive unit this time.

"In our first matchup, I felt as though [Calgary] outperformed us and we were lucky to have a tie," Jepsen said. "With Lethbridge, they're very persistent. They played a full 90 minutes, error-free, and scored two goals; we played nice possession soccer with nice attack for 87 minutes, had mental breakdowns right at the end due to their persistence, and we ended up losing the game. We need to finish early and play hard throughout the full time."

The Pandas will be in action on Friday against the Lethbridge Pronghorns and Sunday versus the Calgary Dinos, with both games kicking off at 12pm down at Foote Field.

Golden Bears looking to solidify soccer playoff berth in last weekend of action

NICK FROST
Sports Editor

If there's ever been a time when the Golden Bears needed a win, it's now. With only a single victory needed to guarantee a spot in the Canada West postseason, Alberta will kick off their final weekend set at home against the Calgary Dinos (2–7–3) and the Lethbridge Pronghorns (1–9–2).

Head coach Len Vickery has expressed his disappointment over the fact that his team has yet to solidify their place in the top four. The Bears had their first opportunity to clinch this past weekend against Trinity Western and Fraser Valley, but ended up with a tie and loss, which wasn't enough to put them over.

"It's unfortunate that we haven't clinched so far," Vickery said. "It would take a little bit of the pressure off to succeed in the upcoming games this weekend, but the team has two opportunities to win one game and clinch that fourth and final playoff spot."

This week, the team has been focusing on ensuring that the pressure doesn't hinder them from giving a complete effort across all 90 minutes. Vickery notes that the team's biggest issue this season has been incomplete play across full time, and he wants his team to fully grasp that before they go into a possible elimination situation.

"We're focusing on making the players realize that the game is 90 minutes long," Vickery explained. "We haven't really had a problem in

the past, but sometimes we've started slowly and had to come back and, other times, we've maybe taken an early advantage only to give it up later in the game. Those things we need to certainly iron out before we go into any playoff situation."

Alberta has already tangled with the Dinos and Pronghorns once this season, picking up a 2–2 tie and a 4–1 win respectively. While both of the Bears' provincial rivals are mathematically unable to advance to the postseason, they will undoubtedly be looking to play the role of spoiler, which the Bears are very aware of going in.

The Golden Bears take to the field on Friday against Lethbridge and Sunday versus Calgary, with both games going at 2:15pm at Foote Field.

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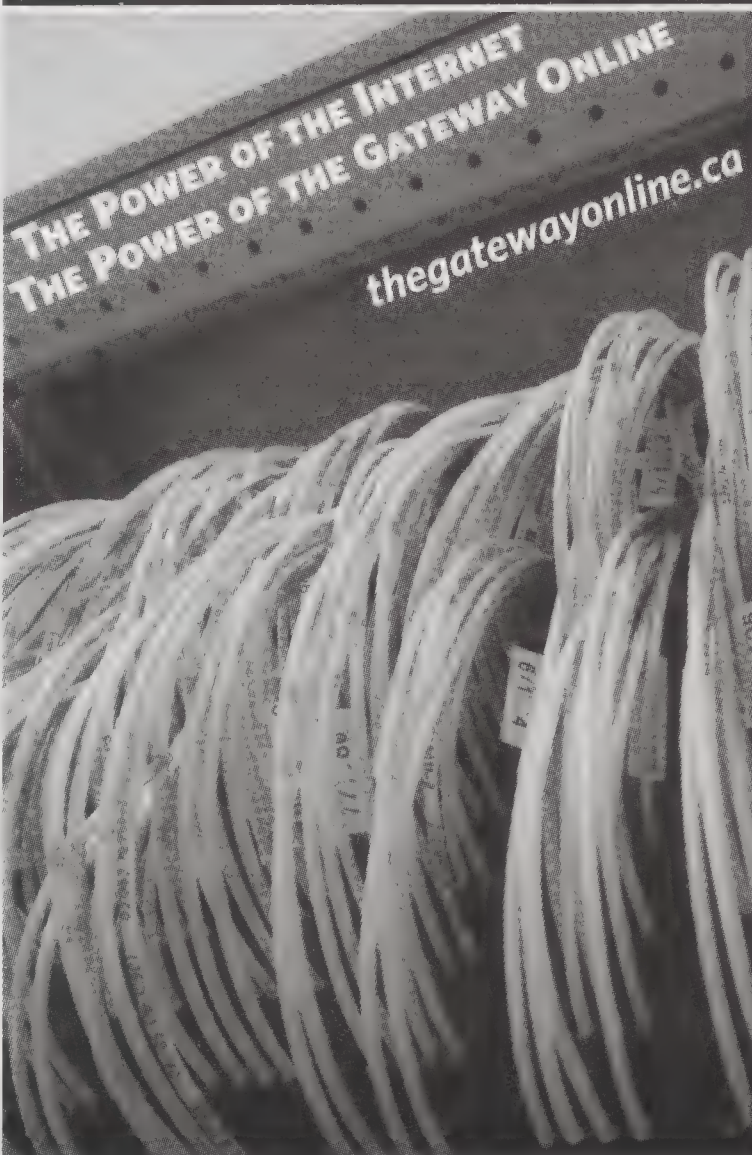


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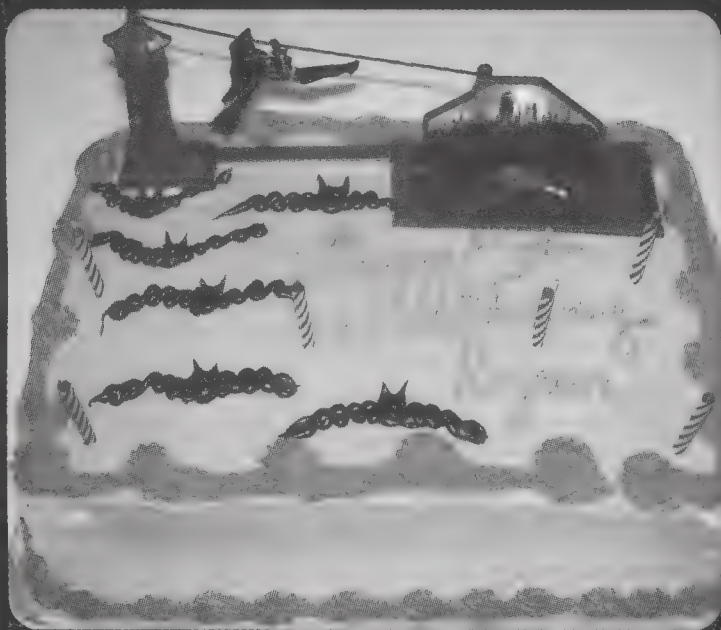
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FILE PHOTO: TARA STEIGLITZ

VETERAN LEADERSHIP Tiffany Proudfoot (10), Alexa Berton (8), and Sam Wojtkiw (5) are helping to lead the charge

V-Ball Pandas open up home schedule

After a long stretch on the road, Alberta welcomes Brandon to the Main Gym

NICK FROST

With two victories already under their belt to start the season, the University of Alberta women's volleyball team (2-0) will attempt to collect two more as they take on the Brandon Bobcats (2-0) in their first home-court battle of the year this weekend.

The Pandas are pleased to be back playing in a more familiar setting after spending all but two of their twelve exhibition matchups away from the Main Gym. During the preseason, the team managed only three losses and came away with victories against a number of their Canada West competitors. Despite the positive outcome, however, according to head coach Laurie Eisler, preseason results don't have as much bearing on her assessment of the team as one might assume.

"We don't really base anything off of our outcome in the preseason because it's just that—preseason. We really try to focus more on what's happening on our side next. We started league play at UBC last weekend and came back with a couple of wins. That's maybe one of the toughest gyms in the league to sweep, so we're fairly happy with where we are right now."

Coming into this year's campaign, the remnants of a disappointing finish

last season—a loss in the CIS bronze medal match against provincial rivals, the Calgary Dinos—still linger with the remaining players. With most of the team still intact, coupled with the added hunger to avenge last year's outcome, Eisler sees endless potential for her team going forward.

"I don't think there's any limits on this team. We're capable of advancing our own play a long way, and I don't know what everyone else has got out there, but we're shooting to be national champions—whether that's do-able or not, it's way too early to know. What our veterans bring is having the experience of having been national champions just two years ago and falling short last year, which leaves a pretty nasty taste in your mouth. So I think there's a nice combination of experience and some urgency to have another chance."

Within the current veteran framework, however, several new players experiencing their first taste of CIS volleyball have emerged and are quickly establishing themselves on an already deep roster. Among the new faces are setters Jaclyn Ellis and Kelci French, as well as right-attacker Camille Wallace, and left-attacker Krista Zubick—and, already, some of them are beginning to make their presence felt within the lineup.

"The new players bring a real energy

to the team and enthusiasm for everything that is CIS volleyball," Eisler said. "Beyond that, they're bringing a level of play that is really challenging in our training environment because they're putting a lot of heat and pressure on that veteran group to keep their level of play high. We've also seen the emergence of Kelci French—a first-year player—who has become a starting power-hitter for us, so the impact's being felt on gameday as well, as far as their contributions on the court."

The Brandon Bobcats come into the weekend's matchup against Alberta on a tear, having started their season with wins against Simon Fraser, on top of winning an exhibition tournament at the University of Saskatchewan against other top Canada West teams.

"[Brandon's] on a real hot streak right now—they've strung together a bunch of wins in a row," Eisler said. "They're a group that's played together for some time and come up through the same coaching system together—they know each other well, battle hard, and stick with each other having shown they can play through adversity. They're a team that's trying to break into the top group, and I know they're bringing the same urgency that we are."

Action begins at 3:30pm on Saturday and again at 2pm on Sunday in the Main Gym.

SPORTS SHORTS

Compiled by Matt Pretty

Pandas Hockey

The Pandas hockey team (4-0-0) hosts the 0-4-0 Regina Cougars in a two-game series this weekend at Clare Drake Arena. Alberta is currently ranked second in CIS behind the McGill Martlets and will attempt to improve that number with the hopes of handing the Cougars a pair of losses. Last weekend, the Pandas swept Lethbridge at home, while Regina was defeated twice by the Manitoba Bisons, who lead the conference with twelve points. As Manitoba has the bye this weekend, Alberta should be able to make up some ground on the Bisons, who have played two more games.

Pandas goaltenders Dana Vinge and Melanie Rees each have one of the Pandas' two shutouts on the season, and both may see time between the pipes this weekend. Defenceman Stephanie Ramsay has eight points in four games to go along with twelve penalty minutes, and sits fifth in the Canada West scoring race—first

among rearguards. Up front, Tarin Podloski leads the team with ten points and is third in conference scoring. Her linemates Leah Copeland (8 points) and Jenn Newton (3 points) make the Pandas' first line one of the most potent trios in the country.

It should be a hard-fought series as the desperate Cougars need any points they can get, while the Pandas can't afford to lose any early ground in their quest for first place. Faceoff on Friday and Saturday happens 7pm at the Drake.

Golden Bears Hockey

The puck Bears (3-1-0) head to Saskatoon this weekend for an important series with the conference-leading Saskatchewan Huskies (5-2-1). The Bears are riding a two-game win streak after a road sweep of UBC last weekend, while the Huskies look to rebound after splitting a series with the Pronghorns in Lethbridge.

Bears goalie Real Cyr was named Canada West Hockey Player of the Week for his performance in Vancouver and will lead the conference's stingiest defence against the high-powered Huskies offence, who are averaging over four goals per game this season. Faceoff is at 7pm on Friday and Saturday.

Golden Bears Football

The Bears football squad will finish their conference season on Saturday afternoon when they take on the Calgary Dinos (5-2) at the Field.

Though the game means nothing to Alberta in the standings, they'll play spoiler, as a Calgary loss would knock the Dinos down to the bottom and force them to go on the road for the playoffs.

The Bears will also attempt to take measure of revenge for a 17-11 loss to Calgary earlier this season—a game that many feel Alberta could have won had the Bears not committed too many turnovers. Kickoff Saturday is at 1pm, with a pregame celebration for grad players.

Cross-country

U of A's cross-country teams will contend for podium positions again as they travel down the coast for this weekend's Stewart Cup.

Both the Bears and Pandas finished second place overall at the Pete St. Geoduck Open Cross-Country two weeks ago in Olympia, Wash., and both Alberta sides have finished in the top three in every event this season. The starting gun will fire at 10am Saturday in Calgary.



PETE YEE

BACKWARDS COMPATIBILITY Mike DeRocco (1) sets the ball behind himself for Spencer Leiske (2) to attempt the kill.

Defending champs serve up new season against Bobcats

NICK FROST
Sports Editor

When the Golden Bears volleyball team steps onto the court for the first of two games against the Brandon Bobcats this weekend, they'll do so as the top-ranked team in the country. Early CIS projections place Alberta—last year's CIS Champions—back atop their proverbial throne heading into the 2008/09 campaign.

After concluding an exhibition schedule that produced wins against upcoming season opponents, as well as a 3-1 record in the Can-Am Challenge, the Bears feel good about where they sit as a team heading into the start of their title defence.

"I think things are coming along," head coach Terry Danyluk said. "We're progressing in some of the areas where we have new players playing and I like the way that the team's working together right now."

As is the case in any given year, along with being the defending national champs comes the added pressure of teams within the conference putting up their best efforts to try and thwart any possibility of back-to-back title reigns. For the Bears, said pressure is something that does factor into their mindset come game time, but Danyluk teaches his players to use it more as a motivator to bring their best efforts every night.

"It's an interesting thing—we've been one of the top teams for quite a few years now, and you can't not think about how teams are going to prepare to play for you," Danyluk explained. "I think the good thing about it is that

we can't ever slack—we have to be ready to put an A-game together, and it's terrific for our development."

The makeup of Alberta's roster this year will feature a large veteran contingent consisting mostly of third-year players—six to be exact—as well as leaders like fifth-years Tim Gourlay and Joel Schmuland, and fourth-years Mike DeRocco, Thomas Jarmoc, and Tyler Myroniuk.

"We're progressing in some of the areas where we have new players playing and I like the way that the team's working together right now."

TERRY DANYLUK
BEARS VOLLEYBALL HEAD COACH

"We have eight guys back from last year's group, including four or five guys that played quite regularly and started most of the time," Danyluk said. "I think with guys like Joel Schmuland and Thomas Jarmoc, and some of the third-year guys on our team are very valuable in transplanting some of the ideas and the values that we have, as well as all the other things that come with building a team."

"I think they're good players, but they're also guys that want to do and accomplish a lot in their last couple of years. Those kinds of players are invaluable to us."

Along with the more experienced core, several younger players—ranging from both sides of the Atlantic Ocean—will enter the fray this year to provide some youthful energy to the current squad, as well as some talent to build on for teams down the road.

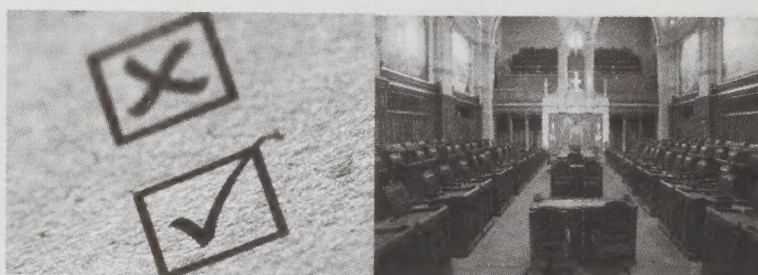
"We have four college transfers and all have won a national championship at the college level—three from Red Deer two years ago, and Jason DeRocco at Mount Royal last year—and we have three high school players—two that were very highly-rated high school players, one from Edmonton in Tristan Aubry, and Erik Mattson from Ontario, as well as Anders Stromsvaag from Norway," Danyluk said.

"These guys are all elite for their age, so you have the youth and the energy with some pretty good skills—although, they still have a lot to learn. But it's a good mix of guys and it helps the makeup of the team."

Alberta's first test will be against the Brandon Bobcats, who qualified for the Canada West playoffs in 2007/08, but lost in the quarterfinals to Thompson Rivers. Having made some upgrades in the offseason, the Bears know that they shouldn't be taking their opening opponents lightly.

"Brandon's added some size on the right side," Danyluk said. "They're a team that can't be taken lightly by any means, and they're capable of beating anybody in our conference when they're at the top of their game."

The Golden Bears take to the court against the Bobcats on Saturday at 2pm and again on Sunday at 3:30pm at the Main Gym.



CANADA WEST FOUNDATION 2008 STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST

\$10,000 IN PRIZES

2008 Essay Contest Question:

Should Canadians switch to a system of PROPORTIONAL representation?

A **\$5,000 cash prize** will be awarded to the winning essay by a **graduate** student and a **\$5,000 cash prize** will be awarded to the winning essay by an **undergraduate** student.

The 2008 Canada West Foundation Essay Contest is open to students attending a post-secondary institution in BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, or Manitoba during the Fall 2008 or Winter 2009 semester.

Undergraduate students: the essay must be between 750 and 1,000 words in length.
Graduate students: the essay must be between 1,250-1,500 words in length.

The essay must be submitted to the Canada West Foundation via email no later than January 31, 2009. The essay must be sent as a standard Microsoft Word file. The author's first and last name, mailing address, phone number, post-secondary institution and field of study must appear at the beginning of the essay. PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU ARE IN AN UNDERGRADUATE OR GRADUATE PROGRAM.

The best essays will be published electronically by the Canada West Foundation. The winning essay and runners-up will be chosen by a panel of judges.

Essays should be emailed to:

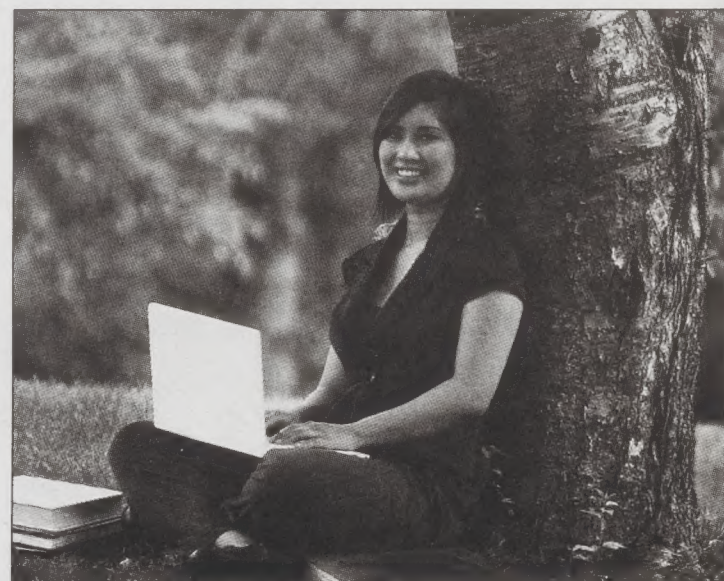
Kari Roberts
Senior Policy Analyst
Canada West Foundation
roberts@cwf.ca

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See Canada West Foundation website (www.cwf.ca) for full contest details.

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Athabasca University

CAMPUS CRIME BEAT ILLUSTRATED by Conal Pierce




CAMPUS CRIME BEAT
Illustrated

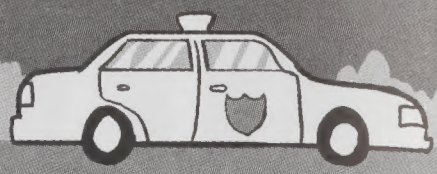
At around 3am on 18 October, a resident of International House phoned Campus 5-0 to report a naked drunk male in her suite.



After Campus Security and Residence Services arrived, they found he was a guest of another I-House resident and that he had become confused after using the bathroom.



He was asked to put on his clothes and was given a courtesy ride back to his home elsewhere in the city.



ID & EGO by Lauren Alston

Next up the smash hit by Leona Lewis: You cut me open and I keep bleeding, keep, keep bleeding love...



I don't get this song.




It's about a hemophiliac with genetically defective blood platelets.



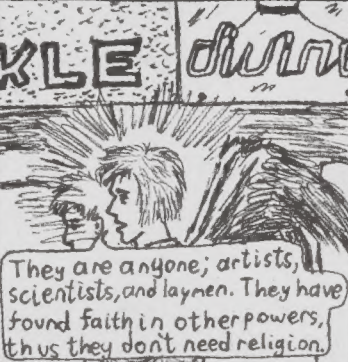
THE RESTLESS WICKED INTERNAL CRISIS PART 6 OF 7 by Marie Gojmerac

Fine. One more time. Explain this "faithful Secularism"



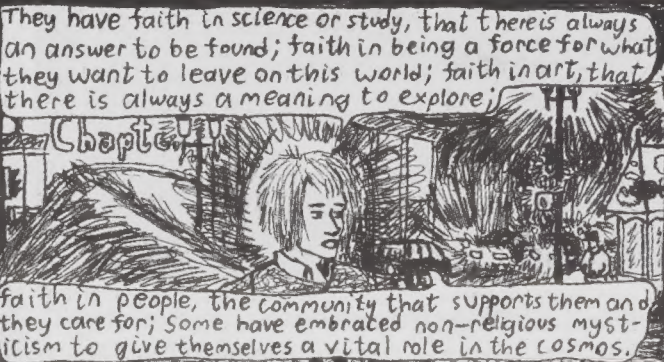
Many have found a way to save their doubt without being in any distinct religion.

KLE divine



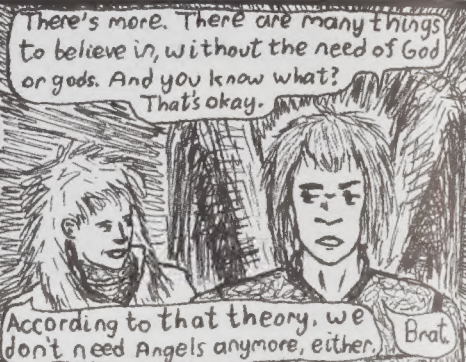
They are anyone; artists, scientists, and laymen. They have found faith in other powers, thus they don't need religion.

Chapter



They have faith in science or study, that there is always an answer to be found; faith in being a force for what they want to leave on this world; faith in art, that there is always a meaning to explore; faith in people, the community that supports them and they care for; some have embraced non-religious mysticism to give themselves a vital role in the cosmos.

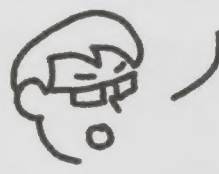
There's more. There are many things to believe in, without the need of God or gods. And you know what? That's okay.



According to that theory, we don't need Angels anymore, either. Brat.

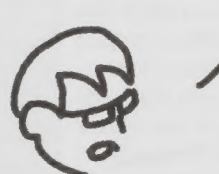
SEXY GEEK by Ross Lockwood

I just got slaughtered by that midterm...



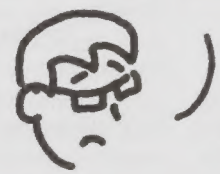
Yeah, I did too.

I think the lesson here is to study harder, and do the homework.



Yeah.

I want to go drinking. Let's go drinking.



Okay!

METALEETO by Ross Vincent

THE LOCAL PAPER

HOLES FILLED!

13th HOLE-FILLING CRIME IN SO MANY DAYS!

Exclamation Marks Overload!

GASP! A CRIME WAVE!


THE GAY-ZETTE "BIP" WEEKLY NEWS

METAL "O" MARKET IN JEOPARDY!

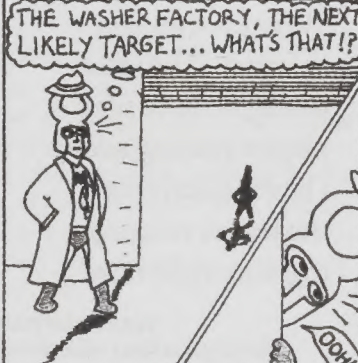
Mayor says "Burn that Lake!"

ZOUNDS! ANOTHER NEWSPAPER!

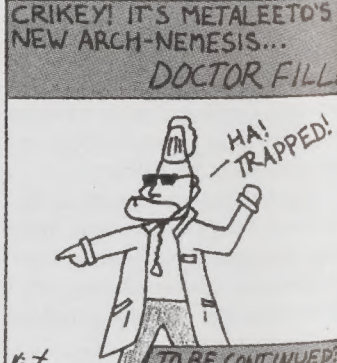
WITH AN IMPECCABLE TALENT FOR DISGUISE, METALEETO GOES UNDERCOVER FOR ANSWERS...



THE WASHER FACTORY, THE NEXT LIKELY TARGET... WHAT'S THAT!?



CRUIKEY! IT'S METALEETO'S NEW ARCH-NEMESIS... DOCTOR FILL!

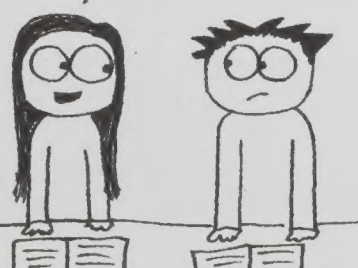


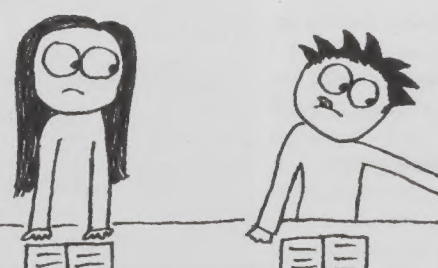
HA! TRAPPED!

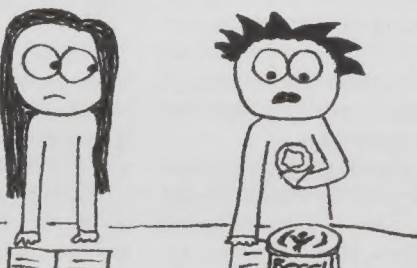
TO BE CONTINUED?

SIGNIFICANT FIGURES by Vicki Olson

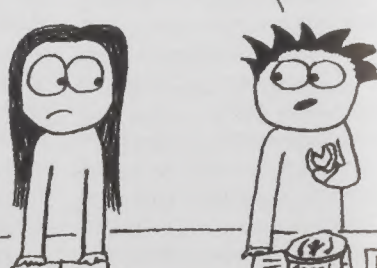
DANIEL, I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU STILL WEAR YOUR HAIR LIKE THAT.







I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S NOT BUTTER.



CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, please go to www.campusclassifieds.ca

FOR RENT

Looking for a place to live? Check out www.rentingspaces.ca, the student housing registry. Free to search and free for students to post roommate listings!

Parking spot - walk to UofA from 109st & 81st. \$35/mo. Unpowered outdoor spot. mike_vanderzee@yahoo.com

FOR SALE

Vintage Lister Hall solid oak chairs \$50 ea. 6 avail.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Huge rummage sale. Holy Trinity Anglican Church 101 St & 84 Ave, Edmonton Fri Oct 24 6:00 - 9:00 pm Sat Oct 25 9:30 - 1:00 pm. Small Furniture, Clothing, Household, Books, Toys, Treasures. Free admission.

Do you have mono? Would you like to try acupuncture for your symptoms for free? If you are between 15 and 25 please contact Denise at 780-232-7040 or care@med.ualberta.ca

EMPLOYMENT-PART TIME

Great winter part time jobs. Edmonton Ski Club, conveniently close to downtown, is looking for ski/snowboard instructors, rental shop personnel, customer service representatives, lift operators 780-465-0852 or send resume to

Skiclub@telusplanet.net

YMCA Child Care Services hiring in Twin Brooks, Hermitage, Rundle, Meadowlark and Londonderry. Work with children ages 5-12 in a fun environment. M-F 7-9 AM or 3-6 PM, only 3 hour min per week. Email resume with availability and location to cabel@edmonton.ymca.ca or call 780-429-5705.

Energetic self-starters required to join a dynamic team providing personal care to physically disabled adults in their homes. \$14-17/hr to start; incentives; hiring bonus. Fax: 780-439-8714 Email: creeksidess@shaw.ca Attention: Joy

Event planning company looking for setup

and takedown staff. Applicants need to be reliable and punctual. Email resume to info@eleganttouches.ca or fax to 780-487-6555.

Food court attendant in SUB, U of A. Mon-Fri 3:30pm-8:30pm \$8.66/hr. Apply to Margriet, Rm 2-900 SUB, or margriet.tilroe-west@su.ualberta.ca

Personal care aide required for male quadriplegic. Position 1 weekend live-in position, 2 weekends per month position 2 weekday live-in position, 2-3 days per week. For both positions: Semi-flexible hours, plenty of time off during the day. No experience required, will train. Drivers licence required. Contact Mark @

mholitzki@shaw.ca to apply or for more information

50% off food eaten on shift break! LExpress, main floor SUB. Mon - Fri 10am-2pm - pick your shift(s)! Offering excellent customer service most important. jerry.daley@su.ualberta.ca

Chance world,inc.! Seeking individuals to work as secretary/Bookkeeping/Accounts/

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solution, tips and computer programs at www.sudoku.com

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astronowatch

by Kati Kovacs

I know I say this a lot, but ugh, what a week. Between my computer stroking off and thinking my house was on fire, I'm about ready to call it quits—

with everything. If I had any money in my bank account (negative money doesn't count, huh?) I'd take it all, escape to Mexico, live on the beach, and drink tequila all day. A girl can dream.

Unfortunately, since I'm stuck in Edmonton with negative money and three jobs, I'll have to make the best of it. This week includes painting the bedroom a funny colour, and drinking

a lot of sangria—from the toilet.

In other great news, as of yesterday there are 990 potentially hazardous asteroids known. Today a 70m asteroid (2008 TT26) passes within four lunar distances of our planet. In astronomical terms, that's a near miss. Count your blessings.

AstronoWatch is a weekly feature that covers the goings-on in the night skies, the galaxy, and sometimes even Kati's personal life. Keep up with Astronowatch online at thegatewayonline.ca/astronowatch or check out the FABservatory's site at www.phys.ualberta.ca/observatory

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